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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE.]

THE WENSLEYDALE PEERAGE.

A QUESTION, fizzing like a bomb-shell, has been suddenly thrown into the decorous and solemn arena of the House of Lords. The Wensleydale Peerage has discomposed the gravity of the gravest assembly in Christendom, and threatens to bring into hostile collision two out of the three great estates of the realm, if it do not also involve the third in the discussion of delicate and difficult points of Constitutional law, which it would have been better for all parties to have left untouched.

The question is by no means so simple as it appears. Neither is it so unimportant as some men, who pique themselves upon their plain common sense, strive to represent. We cannot wonder that the Upper House, whose constitution the innovation tends to impair, should so soon have taken the alarm, and so strenuously have resisted it.

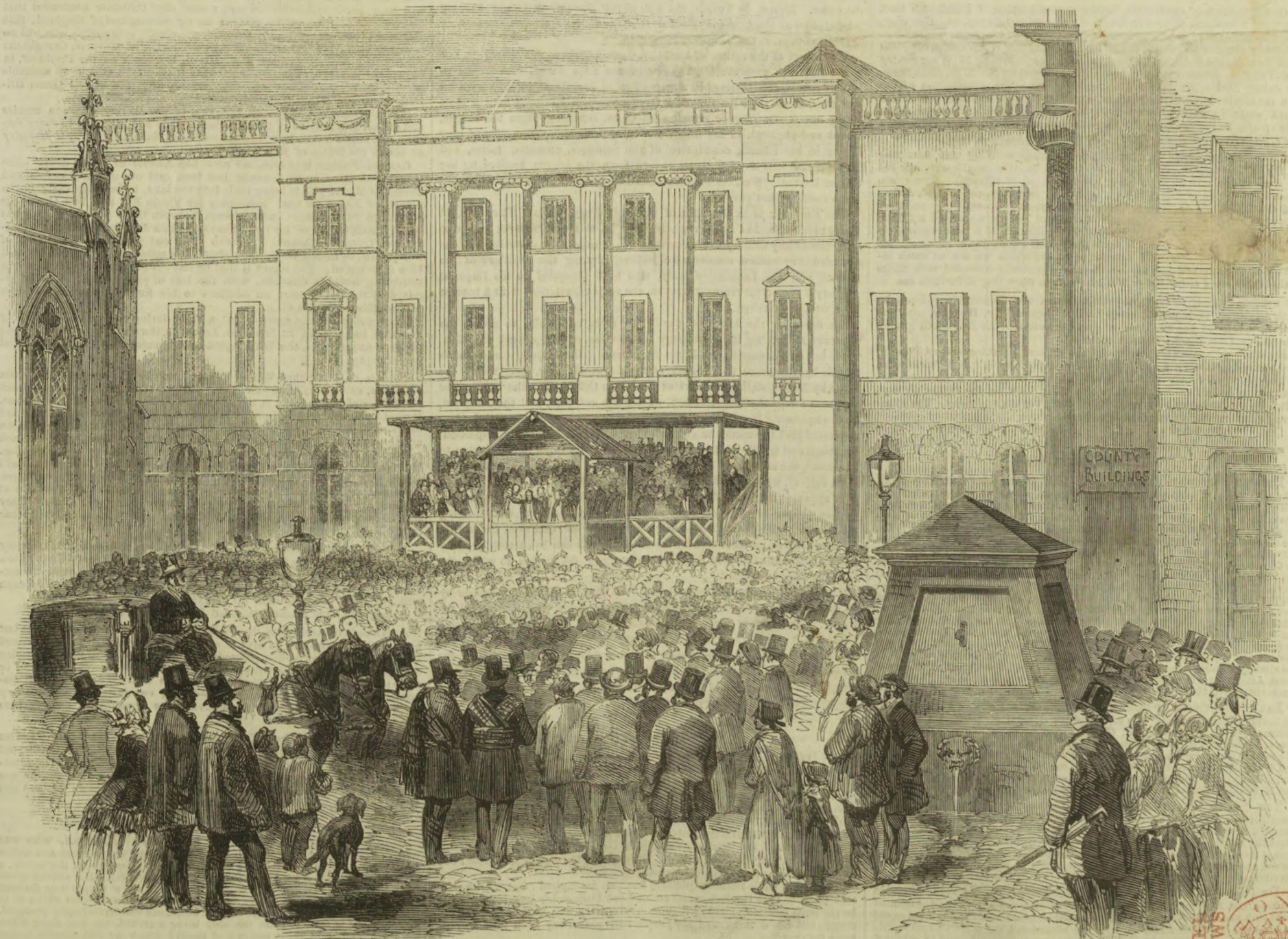
If we take, in the first instance, the reasons which have induced the Government—acting upon the advice of its highest legal authority, the Lord Chancellor—to depart from the ordinary practice in the case of a man thought worthy of being elevated to the honours of the Peerage, we shall, perhaps, disencumber the question of some of the complications which have grown into, and upon, it. The reasons alleged are that the House of Lords, in its capacity as the highest Court of Appeal, does not possess within its body a sufficient number of men learned in the law to transact Appeal business;

that the ex-Lord Chancellors, and others who are qualified to sit in judgment on its benches, are too old for the work expected of them; that non-legal or lay Peers are not to be fitly or even safely intrusted with functions such as these,—that, if they were, such peers hold themselves aloof, and do not choose to become Judges of Appeal, and run the risk of doing injustice to the unfortunate persons whose cases come before them; that many men of the highest legal attainments, whose presence among the Peers would be of the greatest advantage to that assembly, and to the due administration of justice, are not wealthy enough to support the honours of an hereditary peerage, and shrink from leaving to their sons the burthensome dignity of a coronet; and that, as the Bishops sit among the Peers by virtue of their office, and for the term of their natural lives only, it is for the public benefit that a few great lawyers should, on a similar principle, be introduced into the Upper House as life members of that illustrious body. Acting upon this conviction, the Ministry resolved to offer Baron Parke, a peerage for life; that eminent person accepted the limited dignity; and Government making the question a Cabinet one, resolved to stake its Ministerial existence upon it.

We grant the scandal and the abuse as regards the manner in which the Lords have been compelled to do, or to leave undone, their legal work. Their Lordships themselves must be but too painfully conscious of their manifold deficiencies in this respect; but we may grant the abuse without granting the

remedy. Were there no means left but the one adopted? Could not the Lords have been legally relieved of their appellate jurisdiction, without loss of dignity to them, and with satisfaction to the legal profession and the public?

On this point issue has not yet been joined. The House of Lords, not unanimously, but by a strong majority, has determined to resist the introduction of Lord Wensleydale among them, on the broad principle that the Sovereign, who is the fountain of honour, has no right to confer a life peerage; that if the right was ever enjoyed it has fallen into desuetude, the latest instance of its exercise having occurred at a period so far back as the reign of Richard II. The great law Lords allege, in support of this argument, that, if desuetude be not allowed its full weight, the Sovereign might in the same way revive many other antiquated and obsolete rights—the nomination of members to the Lower House of Parliament, among others—to the destruction of the Constitution of the realm, and to the injury of the popular liberties. They furthermore allege that if it be desirable or necessary—which they deny—to create life peerages, the consent not alone of the Queen, but of the Lords and Commons, is necessary to give legal validity to so great a change in the constitution of one branch of the Legislature, in the same manner that the consent of the House of Lords was essential to the validity of the Act for the Reform of the House of Commons. On these grounds they have thrown down the gauntlet to the Sovereign, from the exercise of whose prerogative all nobility



THE EDINBURGH ELECTION.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



spring, and to the Ministry, who have made themselves responsible for the innovation. They have constituted themselves into a Committee of Privileges, and, until they have decided the question for themselves, have determined, should Lord Wensleydale present himself before them, to refuse him admission.

To say the least of it, this is an unhappy state of things. It raises very inopportunistically the whole question of the policy or impolicy of an Hereditary Peerage, and places the Crown and the Ministers in an invidious position, as assailants of the aristocratic branch of the Legislature, which they strive, or seem to strive, to render more democratic.

As far as the discussion has yet gone, the Lords have the best of the argument. It remains for the Ministry to show that they could not have remedied an admitted abuse without the introduction of a new, or at all events of a disputed, element into the constitution of an assembly which Englishmen have so many reasons to respect, and against which they have no ground of quarrel. If there be a ground of quarrel against that illustrious assembly it is on this very question of life peerages; inasmuch as a large section of the people maintains that it would be for the advantage of the State, and of Religion, no less than of the House of Peers itself, if the Bishops—who sit for life in that body—were forthwith deprived of the privilege.

The weakest argument which has yet been employed on behalf of their Lordships is that the creation of life peerages is a principle open to abuse, and that an unscrupulous and wicked Ministry might at any time swamp the independence of the Upper House, by turning into it a whole host of life Peers to carry some particular measure, or series of measures, which the Lords might otherwise reject. But the same argument applies with equal force to the creation of hereditary peerages. The Crown might send into the Clubs or the streets any day of the week, and make a thousand new Peers if it so pleased. Its theoretic right would be unquestionable. But there are thousands of things which people have a right to do which they are too sensible and too virtuous to think of doing. The argument derivable from the possibility of abuse would cut away the Peerage altogether, and the Peers ought to be the last men in the world to insist upon it.

Altogether the question is one of the greatest difficulty and delicacy, and we cannot but think has been very gratuitously raised by the Ministry. Simply, and stripped of all verbiage, it resolves itself into this:—Has the Crown, that could not of its own independent and unassisted action reform the House of Commons, a right to reform the House of Lords, without the consent of the other branches of the Legislature? The desirability of Reform is a question that stands by itself, and on which there is not much, if any, difference of opinion.

EDINBURGH ELECTION.

THE nomination of candidates for the representation of Edinburgh took place on a hustings erected in front of the Signet Library, on Thursday, the 7th inst. Mr. Black, who arrived first on the hustings, was accompanied by the Lord Provost, the Lord Advocate, Sir W. G. Craig, Sir John Dick Lauder, the Solicitor-General, and a large following of Whig gentry and lawyers. Bailie Brown Douglas was escorted by Sir R. K. Arbuthnot, Sir James Forrest, Mr. D. McLaren, and others. The nomination of the two candidates having taken place, amidst great excitement, Mr. Adam Black came forward to address the constituency, and at the end of an able speech, in the course of which he dealt some hard blows at his antagonists, he defended himself against the charge of being a mere Whig:—

I am charged (said Mr. Black) with being a Whig and belonging to the Whig clique. There are silly people in this world who are led by a nickname without considering the reason of it (Cheers). Gentlemen, what do you mean by Whig clique? Is it Fox, and Grey, and Russell, Jeffrey and Cockburn, and Cranston and Abercromby, and Gibson Craig and their fellows, without whose courage and talents and labours we should not have been standing on these hustings to-day? Gentlemen, if it is a reproach to participate in the sentiments of these great men, I glory in the reproach; but don't imagine that because I admire the men to whom we are so much indebted—and am proud that my sentiments so generally coincided with theirs—that therefore I either did or will follow them when they differ from me.

He avowed himself as opposed to intolerance, and taunted the volunteers with sacrificing their principles by their support of Mr. Douglas, who was only in favour of the abolition of one endowment (the Maynooth grant), whereas he (Mr. Black) would abolish all.

Mr. Brown Douglas also addressed the electors, speaking against Popery, and professing himself a supporter of the war policy of Lord Palmerston.

The show of hands was in favour of Mr. Douglas. A poll was demanded on behalf of Mr. Black, which took place on the following day, when he was returned by a majority of 643 over his opponent. The numbers polled for the two candidates were:—

For Mr. Black	2439
For Mr. Douglas	1796

RUSSIAN RAILWAY PROJECTS.—If God grant us peace, we shall take advantage of it to provide Russia with railways. If every landed proprietor would invest five silver roubles per annum for each of his serfs in railway stock, in less than five years the sum derived from eleven millions of serfs would amount to 550,000,000 of silver roubles. An enormous amount! Let the merchants, too, show a readiness to purchase scrip, and the net of railways between the sea coasts will speedily approach completion. Russia will then be ten times richer than she is at present. It now takes twenty-two hours to get to Moscow, a distance of 607 versts; at the same speed we shall travel from St. Petersburg to Simferopol (2038 versts), and to Astrachan (2076 versts), in four days, and get to Kasaan on the third day. I do not speak of the advantages respecting the conveyance of merchandise, but what a delightful thing it will be when our brave troops and the munitions of war can be taken from one spot to another almost like the wind, to a spot menaced by the enemy, for instance, supposing we should then have any enemies. All this can and will be done, but we must make the beginning. Private individuals are already permitted to construct roads, and this is all we want. The good North Americans will cordially assist us, supplying us with skilful engineers and machinists.—*Northern Bee.*

LARGE PURCHASE OF SCREW STEAMERS BY A FRENCH COMPANY.—On Saturday the purchase was made, of the General Screw Steam Shipping Company, of the *Jason*, *Indiana*, *Golden Fleece*, *Calcutta*, *Argo*, *Queen of the South*, *Hydaspes*, and *Lady Jocelyn*—amounting, we hear, to nearly £500,000. We believe this to be the largest purchase of shipping ever made in one line, and it has been effected by Mr. Graham (of the firm of Maitland, Cuthbert, and Co., of Paris), Mr. Brett (of the firm of Cunard, Brett, and Austen, of London), and M. Beraud Villars (manager of the French Clipper Company).

THE SOUND DUES.—A letter from Copenhagen states that, in the second sitting of the Conference on the Sound Dues, the Russian representative accepted in the name of his Government the proposition made by Denmark to capitalise the dues for 36,000,000 rix dollars (120,000,000 fr.). The other members of the Conference, before deciding, demanded time to consult their Governments, and it is probable that no new meeting will be held until they shall have received their instructions.

DR. JOHNSON'S GOD-DAUGHTER.—Messrs. T. Carlyle, Charles Dickens, and John Forster publish the result of their appeal on behalf of Samuel Johnson's god-daughter, the aged Miss Lowe, and her sister. The sum raised is still but a little over £250, but "on the other hand the price of such a life annuity as was proposed proves cheaper than we anticipated; and in addition to this there has been a lucky chance come to help us somewhat. Mauritius Lowe, Miss Lowe's father, is now discovered to have been the benevolent painter by whom Turner, at that time a barber's boy, was first recognised, befriended, and saved to art: in return for which fine action, an ardent and renowned admirer of Turner (whose name we need not indicate further) desires to gratify himself by bestowing henceforth £5 annually on the Misses Lowe; and permits us to publish such his resolution, if that can make it more binding. So that, on the whole, there is now as good as an 'additional annuity of £30,' which was our minimum limit, secured for these aged ladies; and thus, by one means and another, our small problem can be considered as done."

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

THE Carnival over, the lull which marks the commencement of Lent follows, and there is a momentary respite from gaiety and excitement. Now begins the reign of concerts; right and left, pianists, violinists, vocalists, and their patrons and patronesses, besiege the public with concert-tickets at every price, from five francs upwards; infant musical prodigies, who commence their career at twelve years of age, and never get beyond, abound; French, English, German, Italian, and Russian unknown celebrities blazon forth in large letters famous names that no one has the slightest recollection of ever having, at any time or place, heard mentioned. A few of the tickets are, by dint of indefatigable perseverance, sold; many are given away; about half of the people—rather less than more—of the latter category attend, or send their friends; the concert takes place; the hapless beneficiary is much mortified, and a good deal out of pocket; but he has appeared—has been heard at the Salle Herz or the Salle St. Cecile, he has come before the public, he hopes—alas! vain hope, for the most part—that the public will retain some favourable recollection of him; and with this scant grain of comfort he fights his way on, happy if, at the end of some six, eight, or ten years of such struggles and disappointments, he can obtain a name that is recognised with a moderate degree of consideration.

Just at present balls are quite at a standstill; so they are all through Lent, under that title. Balls in Lent! (except just at the Mi-carême) who ever heard of such a thing?—never. It is against all the rules of right—all the dictates of conscience. There are *soirées dansantes*, certainly;—nobody, I suppose, ever thought there could be anything wrong in giving or going to *soirées dansantes* in Lent, did they? Why, at balls there are, perhaps, one, two, three, four hundred people, according to the size of the locality and the length of the visiting list; at *soirées dansantes* the guests only go by nineties. The light, the refreshments, the orchestra, the dresses, are in a like proportion as to number and expense;—indeed, for the ignorant, it is difficult, if not impossible, to distinguish between the two; but it is his own ignorance, not his hostess, he must blame for that; and the fact that it is a *soirée dansante*, and not a ball, he is figuring at, must be received as a point of faith, reposing on which he may entirely tranquillise any scruples of conscience.

After it being entirely decided that the confinement of the Empress should take place at the Tuileries, and every arrangement made in consequence, it now appears, on information on which we believe we may rely, that St. Cloud is to be the place where the expected event is to occur. It is said also that the period hitherto named—the end of February or the first days of March—is earlier than may really be expected, and that the *accouchement* is not likely to be before the 15th or 20th of next month. The Countess Montijo and the Duc and Duchesse d'Alba are expected in Paris in about three weeks. It was reported last week that this event was hourly expected, and crowds assembled about the Tuileries to ascertain the fact. The appearance of her Majesty in a carriage, however, effectually contradicted the rumour. The nurse of the expected Prince (since Prince it is to be) has been chosen, and is installed at the Tuileries. She is a handsome Normande, selected by the Imperial accoucheur, Dr. Dubois, and wears the *bonnet cauchois* and peasant costume of her province. It is said that if the choice had not already fallen on the Prince Jérôme as godfather to the Imperial infant, the Emperor of Austria would have been invited to accept the office. Mme. de Turgot, the wife of the Marquis de Turgot, so long Ambassador at the Court of Madrid, is spoken of as the *gouvernante*, or superintendent, of the Imperial nursery.

The report of the return of Rachel to these latitudes, mentioned in our last letter, was premature. The rest of the tribe Félix, with the exception of Sarah, have arrived in a state of mind greatly at variance with the signification of their patronymic, the speculation having proved a most losing one. *La Grande* remains at Cuba, reposing from the fatigue, moral and physical, of her disastrous campaign, and writes thence long letters to her friends, descriptive of the manners, customs, tastes, and ideas of Brother Jonathan, as viewed from the boards trodden by her classic buskin. Well for Brother Jonathan that it is not his neck that finds itself in that position!

The Emperor is in the habit of receiving every Sunday, after mass, all the general officers of the army who may be at Paris, without letters of audience or any other previous ceremony. It appears that the favour thus accorded has caused considerable jealousy among the members of the Senate and the Legislative Body, who have presented to his Imperial Majesty a respectful remonstrance on the subject, attended with a request for a similar privilege.

On Saturday the Empress, partly the more effectually to silence the rumours respecting the premature termination of her present situation, made her appearance at the Porte St. Martin. Her Majesty was so much struck by the grace and beauty of the statue of Hebe, executed on the stage by Melingue, in the part of *Benvenuto Cellini*, that the artist-actor was sent for to the Imperial box, during the *entr'acte*, and the Empress, after expressing in the most gracious and graceful terms her satisfaction, requested that the model might be brought to the box for her inspection. Its rough and fragile state, however, preventing its being in a condition to be moved, the artist sent to his house an express for a bronze model of the same subject, which her Majesty graciously accepted.

It appears that in the building of the Palais d'Industrie has appeared a perfect plague of rats—to such a degree do they swarm that nothing within the walls is safe from their aggressions, and that even the clothes of the *gardiens* are devoured by them. Unless it can be effectually extirpated, this nuisance will seriously affect any destination to which the building may be applied.

The Grand Opera has in rehearsal "*La Rose de Florence*,"—music by M. Billela, words by M. St. George. The principal part is destined for Roger, with whom is to appear a débutante, Mlle. Moreau Cinti. L'Opera Comique is preparing "*Manon Lescaut*," by MM. Scribe and Auber, for Madame Marie Cabel, who makes in it her début on the new stage, for which she has deserted that of the Théâtre Lyrique. The Gymnase is also about to produce a piece of Madame George Sand, in addition to the two in preparation at the Théâtre Français.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The Indian papers received by express in anticipation of the Overland Mail are of the following dates: Calcutta, Jan. 8; Bombay, Jan. 16.

A notification has been issued by the Governor-General intimating that, as the Santhal insurrection was at an end, the troops engaged in its suppression would return to cantonments. The news from all other parts of India is of the same peaceful character. Neither from Burmah nor our north-west frontier is either intelligence of past disturbance or rumours of coming war, and the Nizam's dominions themselves appear to have sunk into a state of entire tranquillity. Throughout the length and breadth of India profound peace reigns supreme.

Respecting Oude nothing positive has yet transpired; but an impression prevails that the last grand act of Lord Dalhousie's Indian career will be the sequestration of that kingdom. The King will, perhaps, retain his crown, but the dominion of his people will pass away from him and his heirs for ever.

From Burmah intelligence has been received of a terrible conflagration which devastated Rangoon on the 10th of December. In a few hours it destroyed 18 brick warehouses, 180 timber-houses, and 300 bamboo dwelling-places. Water was not to be procured in sufficient quantities, and a considerable amount of plunder was carried off. The loss, estimated at £150,000, will fall on the European houses to whom the native merchants are largely indebted.

A great battle was fought at a place called Kainan, ten days' journey from Lasha, between General Jung Bahadoor, who visited England a few

years ago, and the Tibetians, on the 15th of November. The former proved victorious after a severe struggle, having lost nearly one-third of his army; the loss of the Tibetians was very great, nearly three times as much as the Nepaules. It is said that there could not be less than 32,000 killed and wounded on both sides. The Tibetians lost all their standards and more than fifty leaders; but the whole country was rising to expel the invaders; and, from the Generals getting experience, every battle was bloodier than its predecessor, and eventually Jung Bahadoor would be expelled.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.—RUSSIAN REJOICINGS.

By the *Vatican* steam-ship, which arrived at Marseilles on Wednesday, we have news from Constantinople to the 5th inst.

The news from the Crimea, which is to the 31st January, announces that the Allies have undermined Fort St. Nicholas. Five English regiments are preparing to return to England. 3000 infantry, with two batteries of artillery, have been sent to Kertho. The Egyptians have left Eupatoria for Varna. Accounts from Varna, up to the 30th January, state that a fire had broken out there, and had been extinguished by the French troops. General Coronini had returned to Bucharest. The thaw had commenced in the Danube, and the breaking up of the ice was shortly expected. News from Kinburn states that reinforcements had arrived, and that all was quiet.

The news of peace appears to have been received with great rejoicing by the Russians. Three days before the departure of the corvette from Kinburn an extraordinary courier from St. Petersburg had brought to Odessa the news of the acceptance by the Emperor Alexander of the Austrian ultimatum. This intelligence had produced the greatest sensation on the entire population of the city. In the evening, with the authorisation of Count Strogonoff, Governor-General of Southern Russia, all the houses had been illuminated; and on an immense transparency placed over the front of the Exchange were inscribed these words:—"Long live the Emperor Alexander II." He enjoys the affection and gratitude of his people." From Odessa the news spread like lightning throughout the country, and was hailed everywhere with similar satisfaction. It was particularly grateful to the country people, who stand so much in need of peace and tranquillity. At the winter fair of Aleschki, near Cherson, one of the most important in the country, and which usually lasts three days, the moment the event became known, provisions of every description, which the day before found no buyers, were eagerly inquired after, and the market closed at a rise of thirty per cent on the opening prices. Those symptoms prove that the resolution of the Emperor meets with the approbation of the people. Previously to the arrival of the St. Petersburg courier, an order had been addressed to all the authorities of Southern Russia to suspend the levies of recruits, and that order was generally regarded as an indication of peace.

AMERICA.

The steam-ship *Baltic*, which left New York on the 2nd inst., arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday.

The news of the acceptance of the peace propositions by Russia was known in New York by telegraph from Halifax. The opinions expressed by the United States press are generally doubtful as regards the result of Russia's acceptance.

The papers do not contain any information respecting the differences with England on the enlistment question. On the 29th the ballot for Speaker stood as follows:—Banks, 99; Orr, 69; Fuller, 34; Scatteray, 8. Necessary to a choice, 106.

In the Senate, on the 28th ult., Mr. Cass delivered a speech, which occupied two hours and a half, on Central American Affairs. Alluding to the remarks of the *National Intelligencer*, that the country might be drifting into difficulties, he said that he did not believe it. He thought the ship of State was on its true course, and the pilot doing his duty. Mr. Cass used strong language, denunciatory of the positions assumed by the British Government relative to the Protectorate in Central America, characterising its pretensions in setting up a King over the Mosquito Indians as mere mockery, under which England alone exercised real sovereignty. Mr. Clayton corroborated Mr. Cass by reading extracts from documents showing that the British Vice-Consul was the real Governor of Mosquito, and gave titles to land in his own name. Mr. Collamer contended that there could be no possible pretext for the assumption of England, that the occupation she agreed not to exercise was only prospective, and had no reference to the occupation which she then held. He, however, thought the time for legislative action had not arrived, inasmuch as the President, in his annual Message, expressed hopes that there might still be an amicable adjustment of the controversies between this Government and Great Britain. The subject was then postponed.

A resolution, declaring "any agitation of the slavery question unwise and unjust to a portion of the American people and injurious to every section, and ought not to be countenanced," had been adopted by a majority of one in the House of Representatives.

General Walker, it is said, has now 850 Americans under arms. The suburbs of the city of Granada had been laid out in building lots, and already sold. A pier is being built into the lake, to be ready early in the month of March for use. Schooners for Virgin Bay and San Carlos are advertised to sail three times a week between those ports. Walker has lost by cholera two of his best officers, Captain Davidson and Lieutenant-Colonel Gilman. Colonel Fry, who went out with a scouting party of thirty men, to march to a point about 108 miles north of Granada, had been surrounded. The report is that he had cut his way through, and was retreating towards Granada, with the loss of eleven men. Walker received by the last steamer an addition to his forces of 105 men, besides fifteen officers; 120 in all.

There was a rumour current that a filibustering expedition, numbering 500 men, had landed at San Blas, Lower California. Referring to these piratical expeditions, the Washington correspondent of the *Courier and Inquirer* says:—

There is no doubt that Walker receives recruits by every steamer from California, as well as from New York and New Orleans. The Government has exhausted its ingenuity in the attempt to cut him off from such accessions. It went to the very verge of its admitted powers in seizing the *Northern Light* and detaining its passengers, and it is expected that the case will yet give Mr. McKean and the Attorney-General no little trouble. You cannot prevent invalids from seeking a milder climate, nor can you restrict the privilege of expatriation. It may be assumed that no obstacles interposed by our Government will seriously impede the colonisation of Central America from the United States. As many men will go there and range themselves under the leadership of Walker and other chiefs as the resources of the country can sustain. They will conquer the country, and establish there institutions analogous to our own.

Vice-President Dallas has been offered, and has accepted, the Embassy to London, in room of Mr. Buchanan. A despatch from Washington states that despatches, requesting Mr. Buchanan to remain until his successor arrives, have been sent to England by this steamer. Mr. Buchanan will, therefore, probably defer his departure.

A despatch from Cincinnati, dated January 28th, says:—

A stampede of slaves from the border counties of Kentucky took place last night. The whereabouts of several of the fugitives having been discovered here, officers at noon to-day proceeded to make arrests. Upon approaching the house where the slaves were secreted, the latter fired,—wounding two or three spectators, but not seriously. One slave mother, finding escape impossible, cut the throats of her children—killing one instantly, and severely wounding two others. Six of the fugitives were apprehended, but eight are said to have escaped.

Advices from Vera Cruz of the 22nd January state that Haro y Tamirez had conspired to overthrow the Government and establish an empire, but was arrested before his plans could be put into execution. He subsequently, however, escaped, and was joined by a force, with which he was besieging Puebla, with good prospects of success. Generals Pacheco and Seires had been exiled for their connection with Haro.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A MISER.—A man named Hoffman, who was well known in Westminster for his penurious habits, was engaged as a waiter and to take the hats of the company at a party given by Mr. Rothschild, a diamond-merchant, of 10, Argyl-street, on Friday evening. He arrived about eight o'clock, and performed the duties of his office, and at supper time ate very greedily. About three o'clock on Saturday morning he was seized with a fit in the supper-room; and, although medical assistance was immediately procured, he died in a few minutes. On the body being searched, the first thing which presented itself was some portions of poultry which he had secreted during supper in his pockets, and £36 in gold and 21s. in silver; a Bank-of-England note for £100; a deposit-book of the Royal British Bank for £1225; a deposit-receipt of the London and Westminster Bank for £500; a bill of exchange for £15 15s.; another for £25; a bank deposit-receipt for £150; three parcels of pearls, three of rubies, three of diamonds, one of rough diamonds, one of emeralds, and one of garnets. Forty-one sovereigns were subsequently found in the fob of his trousers. He was supposed to be so poor a man that, some time since, a subscription was raised to send him into the country for the benefit of his health. An inquest was held on Saturday week, when a verdict of "Natural Death from Serous Apoplexy" was returned.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

By all means let our readers beg or borrow, for the sake of perusal throughout, the very interesting volume just published called "Recollections of the Table Talk of Samuel Rogers." There are, it is true, some regular "old Joes" here and there, and some things not by any means good in themselves; but these do not constitute the marrow, backbone, and flesh and blood of the book. Many excellent anecdotes that well deserved recording have found enduring preservation in this volume. Mr. Rogers was not a table-talker. He told epigrammatic stories, and told them well. He sent scandal into the world in the constant shape of an innuendo. The listener went away pleased, nor did he forget what he had heard. But Mr. Rogers did not converse; he did not exchange ideas with the person he sat next to or "over against" at dinner. His was not the merit which he was fond of ascribing to his friend Luttrell—"None of the talkers whom I meet in London society can slide in a brilliant thing with such readiness as he does."

The Rev. Alexander Dyce, the editor of the volume (why should we conceal the name of a writer who has so often instructed the public?), has not attempted any kind of dialogue. He is simply content with recording the very words the poet used in relating his favourite stories and his most cherished recollections. As we turn from one anecdote to another, we can hear the very voice of the poet, and, as it were, see him before us. Some of the anecdotes we have heard from the poet's own lips; and, though we miss here and there a point (which we could ourselves supply), we must bear a general testimony to the fidelity and accuracy of Mr. Dyce as a chronicler of what he heard. We cannot compare the volume for a moment, either in matter or in manner, to Boswell. It reminds us, rather, of Pinkerton's "Walpoliana," and still more so of "Spence's Anecdotes." The Rev. Alexander Dyce is very much like the Rev. Joseph Spence. Neither attempts to give those little traits of manner which evince a master power in catching character and expression. Compare any of the many clever recorders of Dr. Johnson's conversation with James Boswell, and you will see in a moment in what the superiority of Boswell consists.

"A man," said Samuel Rogers, "who attempts to read all the new publications must often do as a flea does—skip." It is time that we should skip to other matters.

Two new appointments are mentioned. Mr. Fergusson (the author of that admirable work the "Handbook of Architecture") is to forsake fortifications and earthworks, and dedicate his time to the Crystal Palace. He is to be the Manager of the Palace. Then Mr. Layard has accepted the office of chairman of a newly-established Ottoman Bank. We shall see him soon Nineveh bull-ing and bear-ing on the Stock Exchange.

The Clarendon Press at Oxford is actually evincing a little vitality. The delegates of the press have stepped in between the Camden Society and All Souls College, and are about to print that MS. diary of Narcissus Luttrell to which Mr. Macaulay makes such constant reference in his "History." Oddly enough, the two Diaries, which throw so much accurate light on English history and English manners and customs, are recent discoveries in College libraries. Pepys's was found in the library at Magdalen College, Cambridge, not many years ago; and Luttrell has just been detected on the shelves of All Souls College, Oxford.

Mr. Uwins has resigned the office of Librarian of the Royal Academy of Arts; and Mr. Pickersgill has been, somewhat unexpectedly, elected to succeed him. Sir Charles Eastlake, having interrupted the supposed succession of portrait-painters as Presidents of the Academy, no doubt thought himself bound to do something for the set of disappointed face-painters. Hence, it is said, the selection of Mr. Pickersgill.

The new Joint Secretary and Editor of the Photographic Society and Journal is an accomplished scholar, the Rev. J. R. Major, of King's College. The salary is £200 per annum. There were many candidates, and some difficulty in the selection.

Mr. Hepworth Dixon has just put forth a well-sustained and well-written reply to the accusations made and renewed by Mr. Macaulay against his favourite, William Penn. The reply appears in the shape of a preface to a new edition of his "Life of Penn." One part of Mr. Macaulay's conduct does, indeed, surprise us. Why should he in every new edition perpetuate the mistake he has made in confounding an unknown George Penn with a well-known William Penn, and that, too, in a transaction that is very damnable? We are not very great admirers of Penn, and are inclined to think that in the latter years he often, unintentionally, did not tell the truth. The truth of history is, however, another and more serious matter.

Rumours of an approaching election will add to the interest of an unpublished Bill of Election Expenses at Weymouth, in 1754, just one hundred and two years ago;—

The Right Hon. Lord John Cavendish, the Hon. George Dodington, the Hon. Welbore Ellis, and John Tucker, Esq., to sundry charges in the election for Weymouth, in April, 1754.

	£	s.	d.
Paid to the Under Sheriff for expediting the Precept	21	0	6
His Bailiff, who brought it	1	1	6
Paid several Persons who carried the Fine Chair six guineas each	25	4	0
Paid the Town Clerk	4	2	0
Paid the Sergeant and Constables, and an Assistant, for their attendance during the time the Candidates went round the Town, at the Election, making lists of and inviting the friends of the Members to dinner	10	10	0
Paid Mr. Swaffield for ingrossing 69 Conveyances to so many purchasers of Freeholds, sometime before the Election, to be prepared in case of an opposition	72	9	0
Paid Sundry Poor Persons who attended at the door when Lord John and Mr. Ellis left Weymouth, including 26s. given to some Grumblers who helped to carry the Chairs, and to one who was wounded in the service	2	2	0
Paid sundry innkeepers for entertainment after the election:—			
Mr. Adams	4	5	0
Mr. Newman	3	17	6
Mr. Hancock	2	6	9
M. Martin	2	3	0
Mr. Stannway	2	10	8
Mr. Cox	1	8	3
Mr. Fowler	1	6	8
Mr. Combes	1	7	6
Mr. Lewis	7	10	0
And to ten other alehouse-keepers who had not any company sent to their houses	12	12	0
Paid Mrs. Russell, milliner, for ribbands the day of the election	1	16	0
Errors excepted.	392	8	1

£ of £392 8s. = £98 2s.
Weymouth, 13th July, 1754.
21st Aug. 1754.—Received of the Hon. Welbore Ellis, Esq., one hundred and ninety-six pounds four shillings, for two-fourths of the foregoing account, being his own and that of the Right Hon. Lord John Cavendish, for my brother Richard Tucker.—Pr. John Tucker.

We have been permitted to transcribe this curious document from the original bill.

THE TURKISH LOAN.—From the return moved for by Mr. Disraeli of the payments made on account of the Turkish Loan up to the 6th instant, it appears that the total sum paid out of the loan of £5,000,000 is £1,691,919. The first payment took place on the 25th of August last, when 100,000 sovereigns were delivered to the War Department for shipment; four similar payments took place before the 15th of September; and on the 21st a bill drawn by the Ottoman Government, amounting with interest to £283,000, was paid. The subsequent payments were pretty equally spread over the intervening space. They consisted of shipments of sovereigns, of £23,000 paid for the ship *Faith*, of £150,000 given to the Paymaster-General for the purchase of steam-vessels and coals, and of £13,250 "paid to the executors of D. W. Witton, for carriages."

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE BISHOP OF CARLISLE.

THE Hon. and Right Rev. Hugh Percy, D.D., fifty-fifth Bishop of Carlisle, died suddenly at Rose Castle, his episcopal residence, in Cumberland, on the 5th instant. His Lordship was the third son of Algernon Percy, second Baron Lovaine, and first Earl of Beverley, by his wife Isabella, second daughter of Peter Burrell, Esq., of Beckenham, Kent, and sister of Peter, first Lord Gwydyr. He was born in London, in 1784. His first important appointments after he had taken holy orders were those of Chancellor of the diocese of Salisbury, and Canon of St. Paul's. At St. Paul's he also held one of the golden prebends. In June, 1827, he was consecrated Bishop of Rochester; and in the September following, during the Administration of Mr. Canning, he was translated to the see of Carlisle. It is related of Dr. Percy that, when about to be translated, the Premier said to him that he hoped to obtain his parliamentary support. Dr. Percy declined to make the expected response, and took his departure without the appointment. Nevertheless, he soon afterwards obtained it, and his independence is a strong proof that the office was appropriately conferred.

His Lordship married, first, in 1806, Mary Manners Sutton, eldest daughter of Dr. Manners Sutton, Archbishop of Canterbury, by whom he had issue three sons and eight daughters. Mrs. Percy dying the 4th September, 1831, his Lordship married, secondly, in February, 1840, Mary, daughter of the late Vice-Admiral Sir Wm. Hope Johnstone, G.C.B., which lady died without issue, in 1851. The sons of the Bishop by his first marriage are:—Algernon C. H. Percy, Esq., of Hodnet Hall, Salop; the Rev. Henry Percy, Vicar of Warkworth; and Hugh Joceline Percy, Esq., of the 7th Hussars. Of the Bishop's daughters four are married, viz., Mrs. Vernon Lockwood, Mrs. Askew, of Glenridding, the Viscountess Holmesdale, and Mrs. Edward Thompson.

GENERAL SIR WILLIAM GABRIEL DAVY, C.B., K.C.H.

THE demise of Sir William Gabriel Davy took place a short time since at Tracy Park, his seat, near Bath. He was the eldest son of Major Davy, E.I.C.S., the Persian Secretary of Warren Hastings, and was born in 1779. He was twice married; first, in 1814, to Miss Arthington, eldest daughter of Thomas Arthington, Esq., of Arthington, Yorkshire; and secondly, in 1840, to Miss Wilson, eldest daughter of Richard Fountayne Wilson, Esq., of Melton, Yorkshire. Sir William Gabriel Davy entered the British Army the 4th March, 1797, and gallantly shared in some rough and glorious work during the Peninsular War. He commanded the fifth battalion of the 60th Foot at the battles of Roleia, Vimiera, and Talavera; and for his conduct on those occasions received a medal and one clasp. He was also in the receipt of an annual pension for "distinguished services." He was made a Companion of the Order of the Bath in 1815; he became a Lieutenant-General in 1830; and was nominated a Knight Commander of the Hanoverian Order in 1836. Sir William was further, in 1842, appointed Colonel of the 60th Foot; and was advanced to the rank of General in 1854.

SIR ALEXANDER MACKENZIE, BART.

SIR ALEXANDER MACKENZIE, eighth Baronet, of Coul, died on the 3rd ult., at his residence, Kinellan Lodge, Ross-shire. He was the eldest son of Sir George Stuart Mackenzie, F.R.S., the seventh Baronet, and was born on the 10th of January, 1805. He succeeded his father the 26th Nov., 1848. He never married. Sir Alexander was a soldier of high reputation. Entering the Indian army in 1824, he distinguished himself at the siege and capture of Bhurtpore, in 1825-6, and had the medal in consequence. He was afterwards Deputy-Judge Advocate-General with the army at Gwalior, and had his horse killed under him at the battle of Maharajpore in 1843. He also took part in the first campaign in the Sutlej in 1845-6. He finally retired from the Bengal army in 1851, after a military career of more than twenty-six years. Since his return to Scotland, Sir Alexander had won the esteem and respect of every one as a landlord and a neighbour; his early decease, in the prime of manhood, is much regretted. He is succeeded in his title and estate by his next brother, now Sir William Mackenzie, the ninth Baronet, who is unmarried. Of Sir Alexander's other surviving brothers, the third brother, Robert Ramsay, married in 1806 Louisa, daughter of Richard Jones, Esq., Member of Council in Sydney, Australia; the fourth brother, the Rev. John Mackenzie, of the Free Church, Scotland, married Eliza, daughter of the late distinguished divine, Dr. Chalmers; the fifth, Donald Macleod Mackenzie, Commander in the Navy; the sixth, the Rev. James Mackenzie, of the Church of England, who married, on May 11th, 1847, Philadelphia, youngest daughter of the late Sir Percyall Hert Dyke, Bart., Lullingstone Castle, Kent.

THE REV. CHARLES EUSTACE.

THIS venerable and much-esteemed gentleman, the heir and representative of the Viscounts Balinglass, died at a very advanced age on the 5th Jan. In 1839 he petitioned the Crown that his right to the Viscounty of Balinglass might be acknowledged. His petition was referred by the Queen to her Majesty's Attorney-General for Ireland (the present Lord Chancellor Brady), who, having investigated the case, reported that "the petitioner had shown sufficient evidence of his right to the dignity of Viscount Balinglass in case the attainder of James, third Viscount, temp. Elizabeth, were reversed." Mr. Eustace felt during the whole course of his life the deepest anxiety to have this attainder removed, and to see the ancient title of his family restored; but, despite of his constant efforts, and of this being almost the very last Peerage honour similarly obscured, the act of justice he so ardently desired he has not survived to see accomplished.

Mr. Eustace was the eldest son of the late Lieut.-General Charles Eustace—a distinguished commander against the rebels in 1798, and brother of Sir William Eustace and Sir John Rowland Eustace, both general officers. He married Cassandra, daughter of John Stannard, Esq., of Ballydoyle, co. Cork, son of John Stannard, Recorder of Dublin; and leaves issue one son, Captain Charles Stannard Eustace, in whom now vests the right to the Balinglass Peerage; and four daughters—Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Leader, Mrs. Arbuthnot, and Mrs. Conner.

MRS. ELIOT.

THIS lady, the wife of Rear-Admiral Eliot, died on the 15th ultimo, after a long illness. Mrs. Eliot was the fourth daughter of the late George Baring, Esq., granddaughter of the late Sir Francis Baring, Bart., and maternal granddaughter of the late Sir John D'Oyley, Bart. By the death of this excellent lady the families of Viscount Dillon, Lord Ashburton, Lord Suffield, Mr. Henry Baring, the Right Hon. Mr. Henry Labouchere, Sir Francis Baring, Bart.; the Hon. Mr. Francis Baring, M.P.; Sir John D'Oyley, Bart.; Mr. Thomas Baring, M.P.; Sir Grenville Temple, Bart., and a numerous circle of other relatives, are placed in mourning.

LADY EMILY HENRY.

THE death of Lady Emily Elizabeth Henry occurred, after a lingering and protracted illness, on the 9th inst., at her Ladyship's residence, No. 2, Cumberland-terrace, Regent's-park. Her Ladyship was the second daughter of William Robert, second Duke of Leinster, by his wife, Emilia Olivia, only daughter and heiress of George Usher Lord St. George, and was born the 13th May, 1778. She was married the 13th March, 1801, to John Joseph Henry, Esq., of Straffan, county Kildare, by whom, who died in 1846, she had a large family.

GLANCING HOMEWARD.—Coming in from Sebastopol, over Picket-house Hill, the Camp had quite a homely and snug appearance as it lay basking lazily in the Sabbath sunshine, its numerous smoking chimneys telling of Sunday dinners in preparation; and one could hardly fancy that—if all we hear be true—in a few weeks' or months' time this extensive military city will have disappeared from the earth's surface, leaving a blackened and ash-strewn desert. Although the news of Russia's acceptance of the ultimatum appears positive, and is confirmed by recent letters received in Camp from Constantinople, a reaction has taken place in the military mind, and doubt is cast upon that which, a very few days ago, obtained almost universal credence. In many cases the wish, perhaps, is father to the doubt, for there are many here to whom peace is unwelcome. That there is a strong probability of its being made is evident from the fact of a Commissariat officer having been sent off to suspend contracts and stop supplies in Constantinople, Malta, and Italy; and to make such arrangements as plainly indicate an expectation that hostilities are drawing to a close. If peace be made, how long shall we be getting away from this? is a question one hears continually asked and replied to by various conjectures. Much will depend on the amount of shipping that can be supplied. I understand that the Quartermaster-General's people say it would take a year to get men, matériel, and stores of all kinds away, and to clear the English army and its appurtenances entirely out of the Crimea and Turkey. Probably this is rather an exaggerated estimate of the time really necessary, and yet, bearing in mind the immense quantity of things that will have to be removed, one can hardly pronounce it so. The horses alone will require a vast deal of shipping. Officers whose rank and position in the service entitle them to horses can hardly be refused permission to take them home, or be fairly compelled (unless compensation be given) to sell the animals here, where the glut would render them unsaleable. It is to be expected that huts, furniture, and all sorts of household property will be condemned to the flames.—*Letter from the Camp, Jan. 28.*

The *Moniteur* of Sunday contained an Imperial decree by which the Senate and Legislative Body of France are convoked for the 3rd of March.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

On Saturday last, at a meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, held at Hanover-square, his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French was unanimously elected an honorary member of the Association.

The Emperor of Russia has ordered mourning for nine days in all the kingdom of Poland for Prince Paskiewitch. During that period the theatres will be closed, and the Army will wear crape on their left arm.

The King of Prussia has named Count Victor Schwerin, "hereditary head cook" in Pomerania, to be a Peer, or member for life of the first chamber.

Attempts have been made by the agents of the Count de Montemolin to raise a loan for Carlist purposes, through the principal banking-houses here, at Frankfurt, Hamburg, and in Holland.

A veterinary surgeon attached to the Emperor of Russia's stables has been commissioned to purchase in Hanover and Holstein 120 horses for the Emperor's stud. When complete, this stud, which has stations in every large town, so that the Emperor may always travel with his own horses, numbers 1400; at present it contains no more than 900.

On Sunday last the French Emperor received M. Pahud, Governor-General of the Dutch East Indies, and M. Conrad, chief engineer in the service of the King of the Netherlands, President of the Commission for cutting through the Isthmus of Suez.

Pius IX. has presented to the Queen of Spain a prayer-book, said to have belonged to St. Catherine of Sienna, in return for the presents by her Catholic Majesty—the "Prodigal Son" and the "Marriage of St. Catherine," of Murillo.

The Rev. Dr. Newman, Rector of the Catholic University of Dublin, is at present in Rome. Dr. Manning was also expected there to preach during Lent to the English in the Church of Saint Andre delle Fratte.

Queen Isabella has named General Bosquet Grandee of Spain of the First Class.

The Princess of Prussia is to leave Berlin on Monday next, with her daughter, to return to the Rhenish provinces; and the Prince of Prussia is to remain in Berlin until the middle of March.

Captain Brooke, a relative of Sir James Brooke, Rajah of Sarawak, is now engaged in London in purchasing steam-boats for Sir James.

The King of Hanover has conferred the Grand Cross of the Guelphic Order on Count Cavour and the Marquis de Villamarina.

Baron Brunnow arrived at Paris on Tuesday night, at half-past ten o'clock, at the Russian Embassy.

Among the passengers by the *Avon*, which arrived at Southampton on Tuesday, were Lord H. Cholmondeley and two daughters, from Madeira.

General de Martimprey has left Paris for the Crimea, to resume his post of Chief of the Staff of Marshal Pelissier's army.

Letters from St. Petersburg state that the re-establishment of the Episcopal Sees, which had been promised to the Pope by the Czar Nicholas, has not yet received the sanction of the Emperor Alexander.

General Sir Colin Campbell arrived at Malta on the 1st instant, by the French packet the *Thabor* from Marsilles, and proceeded to the East in the same vessel the day after.

The French Ambassador at Constantinople was to give his first ball on the evening of the 28th. It had been fixed inadvertently for the 21st, but "was afterwards countermanded on M. Thouvenel calling to mind that it was the anniversary of the death of Louis XVI."

Prince Gortschakoff, ex-Commandant in the Crimea, has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Central and Western Armies, and Imperial Lieutenant of Poland.

Mehemet Djemil Bey, the Turkish Ambassador at Paris, arrived at Turin on the 6th inst., and was present the day after at a grand fete given by the Duke de Grammont, Minister of France at the Sardinian Court.

The Prince Regent of Baden, as well as the Prince and Princess of Prussia, with their daughter, has arrived at the Court of Weimar for a stay of some length.

Prince Gortschakoff, Russian Ambassador at Vienna, has taken a villa near Schenbrunn for the summer.

Mr. Benson, the newly-elected President, was duly installed at Liberia on the 15th of January.

Mr. G. Hayes, of the Midland Circuit; Mr. G. Pigott, of the Oxford Circuit; and Mr. M. L. Wells, of the Norfolk Circuit, have been admitted to the degree of the cof, and will be sworn in immediately.

M. Alphonse de Rothschild has been received by the Sultan. He purposes, it is said, to establish a bank at Constantinople.

The *Austrian Correspondence* announces the arrival in Trieste of the Prince and Princess of Montenegro.

It is stated that sixty thousand copies of Mr. Caird's sermon on "Religion in Common Life" have been sold; that Mr. Caird has received £700 from the publisher; and that it is his intention to apply the whole sum to the endowment of the Errol Females' Industrial School.

Considerable excitement was created at its sitting of the 9th inst. of the Piedmontese Chamber of Deputies by the presence of General de la Marmora, who was loudly cheered.

A nurse, a very pretty peasant woman of Normandy, has been installed at the Tuilleries.

The Hungarian officer Turr, who has been so much talked about lately, did not obtain his pardon until after he had been tried by the court-martial of Carlsburg, and condemned to death.

The Directors of the Crystal Palace have elected Mr. James Ferguson, F.R.A.S., &c., to the office of general manager. The directors have made arrangements with the manager and the other principal officers of the company, by which their remuneration will in some degree depend for the future on the commercial success of the enterprise.

The arrest at Berlin of a banker named Mayer has created much sensation, as "many ladies of high rank are peculiarly compromised in the operations which provoked the measure."

The Greek Minister of Public Instruction, M. Christopoulos, has decreed the establishment at Athens of the archaeological museum.

In consequence of the death of the Rev. David Gray, a vacancy has occurred in the Professorship of Natural Philosophy, Marischal College, Aberdeen. The patronage of it belongs to the Crown. The emoluments amount to about £300 per annum.

The *Madrid Gazette* of the 4th announces that Cabrera, backed by the Carlist clubs of Paris and London, is trying to get up a new insurrection, but that the other principal chiefs of the party are opposed to the enterprise.

The Grand Duke of Tuscany has ordered a new levy of 2000 men of the class of 1837.

The Russian *Gazette de Commerce* announces the formation of a company for furnishing the Lower Dnieper with steam navigation from Alexandroff to the mouth of the river in the Black Sea.

The importation of seaborne coal into London in January, 1856, amounted to 361,370 tons: same period 1855, 212,150 tons. The quantity of coals brought into London by railway and canal in January was 123,707 tons: same period last year, 61,818 tons; showing an increase of 61,889 tons.

Some Turkish ladies at Scutari left their homes the other day on account of the telegraphic wires having been carried over the roofs of the houses. They imagined that the wire could tell all their secrets!

The *Herald* states that, in consequence of the probability of peace, an order has been already issued prohibiting naval officers from wearing moustaches while on full pay.

According to the *Ments Journal*, the Greek Government intends to conclude a concordat with the Holy See. The number of Roman Catholics in Greece is about 16,000.

The museum at the Hôtel Cluny, Paris, has just received one of the trophies taken by the French army of the East—the cross with four branches, and six feet in height, belonging to the Church of St. Vladimir, at Sebastopol.

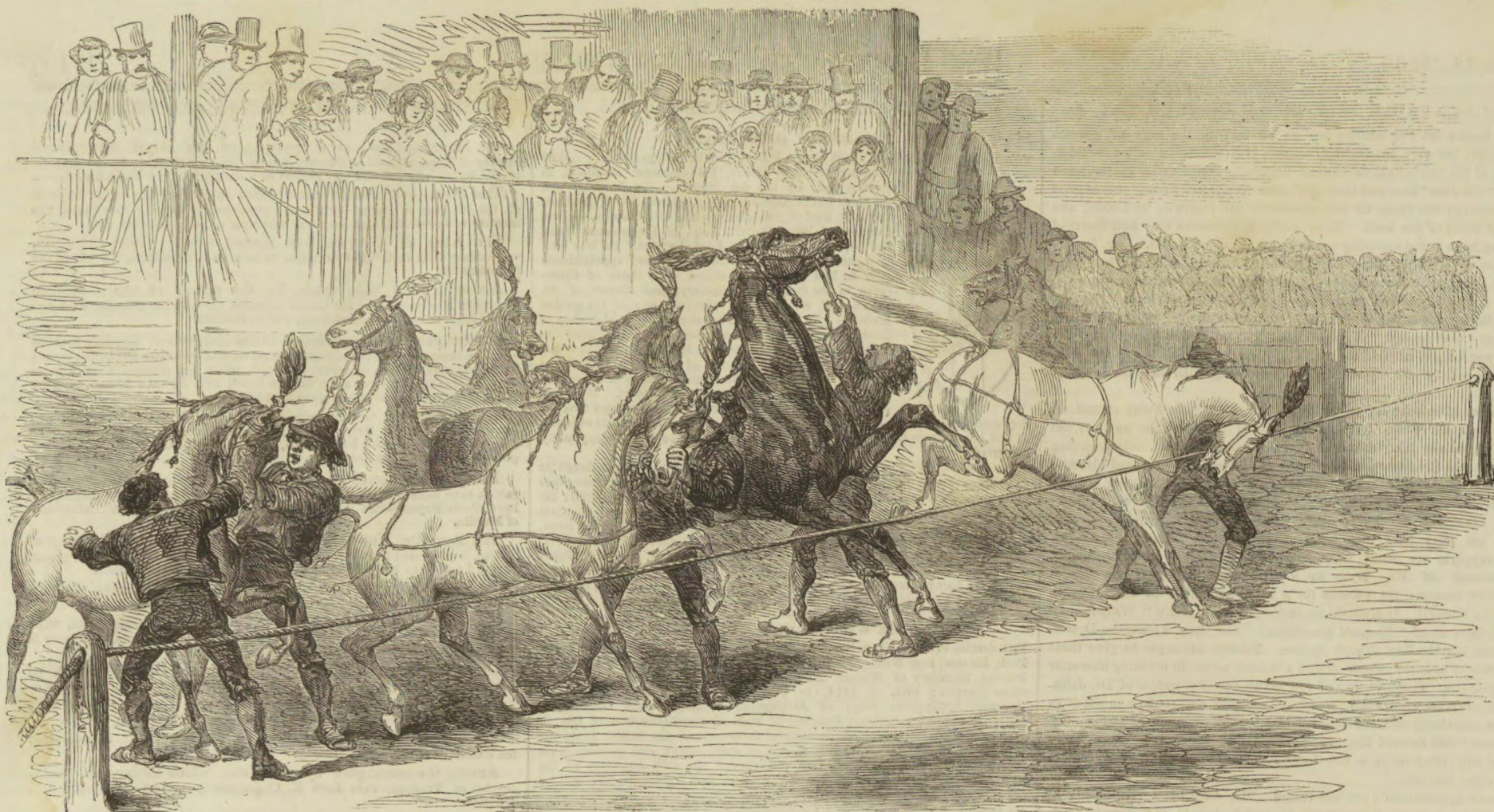
As a sign of the extreme mildness of the season, it is stated that several beautiful butterflies were on Monday caught in a garden in the suburbs of Paris.

Letters from Constantinople mention that telegraphic despatches intended for Turkey should be addressed to the Governor of Giurgevo, on the Danube, who will forward them to their destination.

The *Scotsman* says it is in contemplation to abolish the London Trinity House.

The criminal prosecution decreed against the Minister Scheele by the Holstein Diet is, by Royal decree, to be brought before the Superior Court of Appeal of that Duchy.

The body of Mr. Spiller, late librarian at the Bath Athenaeum, was discovered on the 8th inst., near the weir at Swinford, near Bitton. His shirt-front, in which were valuable studs, was torn away, and his watch or money was not found upon him.



CARNIVAL RACES AT ROME.

HORSE-RACES AT THE CARNIVAL AT ROME.

We have been favoured with the accompanying Sketch by an eye-witness of a scene quite unique—the Horse-races which take place during the Carnival at Rome. It is totally different from what we are accustomed to see in our own sporting country. The Carnival, though sadly degenerated from what it once was, is still a scene of great liveliness. There are only two ways of enjoying its festivities: either to absent yourself altogether and enjoy it from hearsay; or to enter into it with your whole heart and soul, condescending to engage in amusements which, upon reflection, appear decidedly babyish; but at the time are really very good fun for all who have health and spirits to partake of them.

For ten days the farce is kept up. At two o'clock a party of mounted soldiers, headed by an officer, canter up and down the Corso, which is the principal and only tolerable street in Rome, being about three-quarters of a mile in length and twenty-five feet in breadth, well paved, perfectly straight, and possessing a narrow footpath. The Carnival is now open. In rapid succession follow carriages of all descriptions, provided they are drawn by two animals (no others are admitted), crowded with men, women, and children of every country, and dressed in every conceivable costume; they soon form into two lines, the up and down stream. What portion of the street is not thus occupied is filled up with pedestrians, each one of whom endeavours to render himself or herself more conspicuous than his or her neighbour by costume, or by antics, the most absurd possible. During all this time a shower of confetti and bouquets is kept up—the former to try the temper, the latter to soothe the ruffled spirit: many of the bouquets are costly, and carry in their flight—for they are all

thrown—much sentiment or sarcasm. This lasts for two hours, when the same troop of horsemen is seen in martial array preparing for the charge to clear the street. Off they set at full gallop, and woe betide the inquisitive if they attempt to interrupt the progress of these daring military heroes. The horses are now at their starting-posts, without riders, but most plentifully supplied with leaden balls and sharp spurs, which rattle against all the most tender parts of their bodies, increasing the velocity and deepening "the raw" in proportion to the speed of the senseless brutes, who never stay their onward course to reason philosophically upon the easiest mode of escaping from their tormentors until they arrive at the goal, where they encounter a sheet of strong cloth stretched across the street. During this performance many is the scene to distract the attention of the observer. At the start a rope is placed across the street, the horses being led close up to it. Those trained to it wait for the drop, and then fly off like an arrow from a bow. Some try this too soon, and inevitably perform a somersault, dragging with them the hapless groom in all the glory of his holiday costume. Some, from nervousness, let go their best opportunity, and are left far behind, exposed to the raillery of the spectators, who encourage only the successful; soon these are stopped in their course, and lucky is the rightful owner if he ever procures his horse again.

The race is now over: all again is confusion, each one hurrying home to prepare for the joys of the evening, which are numerous, in the shape of jolly dinners, gay balls, and crowded theatres. Masking is now forbidden, owing to the facilities which it gave to those evilly disposed to take vengeance for some outrage or insult committed against themselves, families, or friends. The Romans consider the whole of this entertainment as unequalled for grandeur or for fun. The English, one and all, although

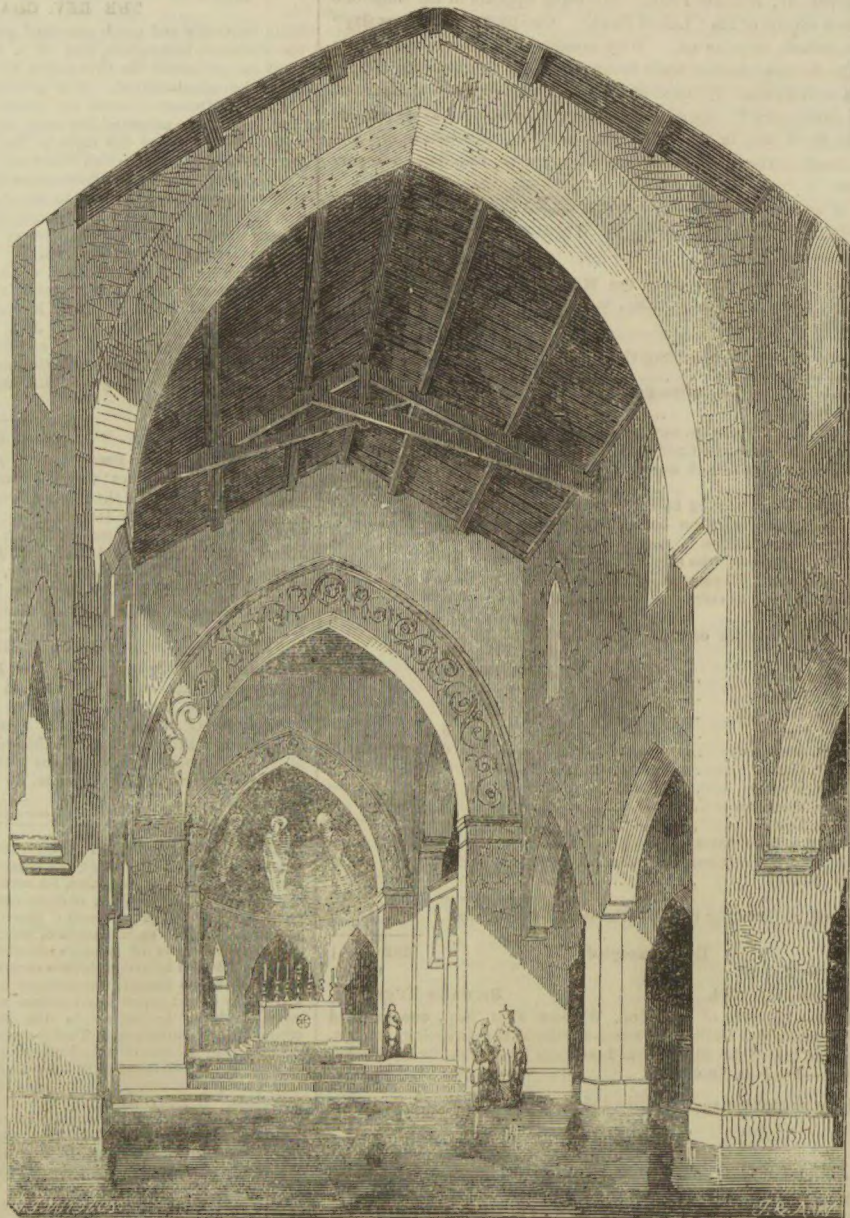
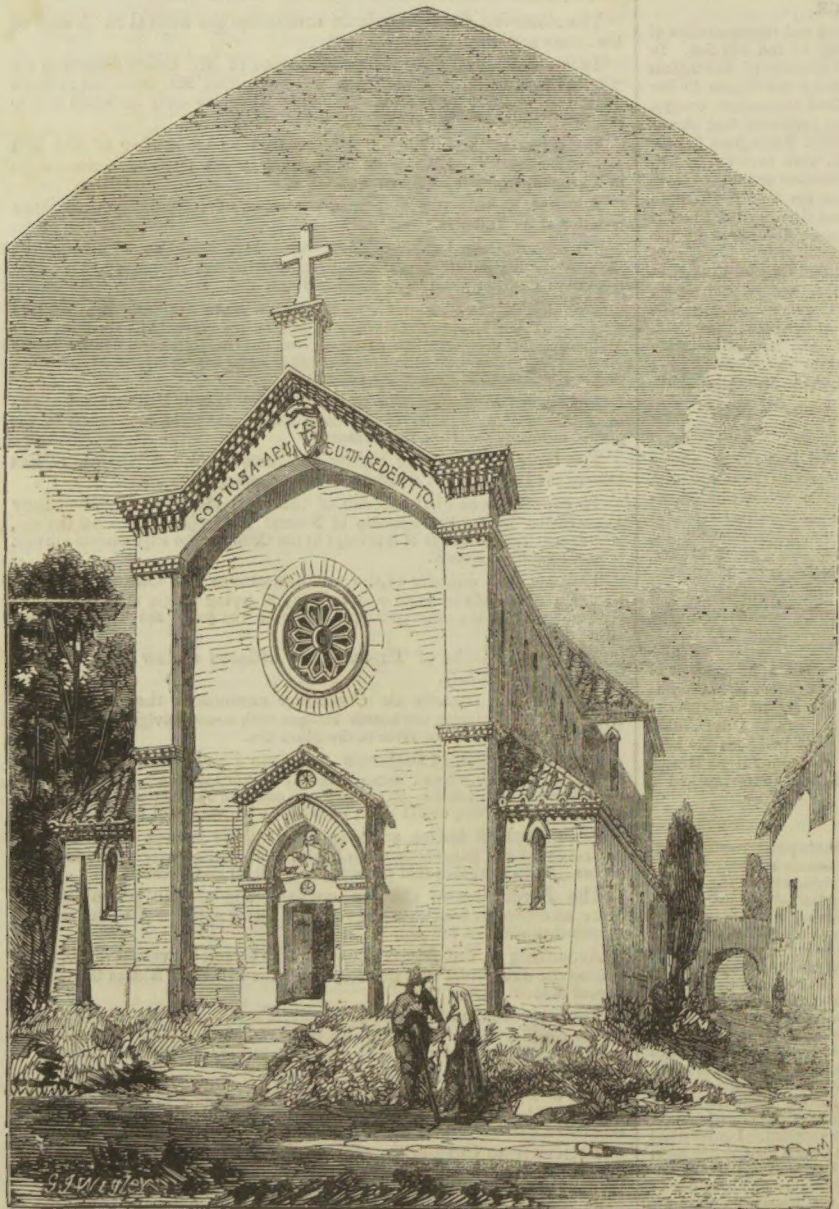
they are the whole life of the scene, pronounce it to be childish and ridiculous; but any fun in dull Rome is hailed with joy by our jovial countrymen.

NEW CHURCH BUILT BY AN ENGLISH ARCHITECT AT ROME.

THE circumstance of a church being erected in Rome among a greater number of ancient edifices than are to be found upon any other city of the world is a fact deserving artistic commemoration. Such is the Church of Il Santissimo Redentore, now in course of erection from the designs of Mr. George G. Wigley.

Of the exterior and interior we engrave two views. The church is situated in the Villa Caserta, on the road between Santa Maria Maggiore and San Giovanni Laterano, at the corner of the Via di San Vito, and close to the Arch of Gallienus. The Redemptorist Fathers (an order founded at the end of the last century, by the well-known theological writer, St. Alphonsus Liguori) have lately purchased the Villa Caserta, to make it their head-quarters in the Eternal City, and have added to the existing buildings the church which is the subject of our illustration.

The general dimensions of the church are 200 Roman palms (146 feet) in length, by 70 palms (51 feet) in width, and 70 palms in height. The estimated cost is 18,000 Roman scudi (about £4000). The style of the church is an adaptation of Italian Gothic, of a very simple character, studied from mediæval buildings at Subiaco and other places in the neighbourhood of Rome. This is due chiefly to the taste of the Rev. Father Douglas, who is at present Provincial, or Local Superior, of the Order in Rome. The church will be opened next spring.



NEW CHURCH OF IL SANTISSIMO REDENTORE, AT ROME.



MALE BUSTARD TAKEN NEAR HUNGERFORD, WILTS.

THE GREAT BUSTARD.

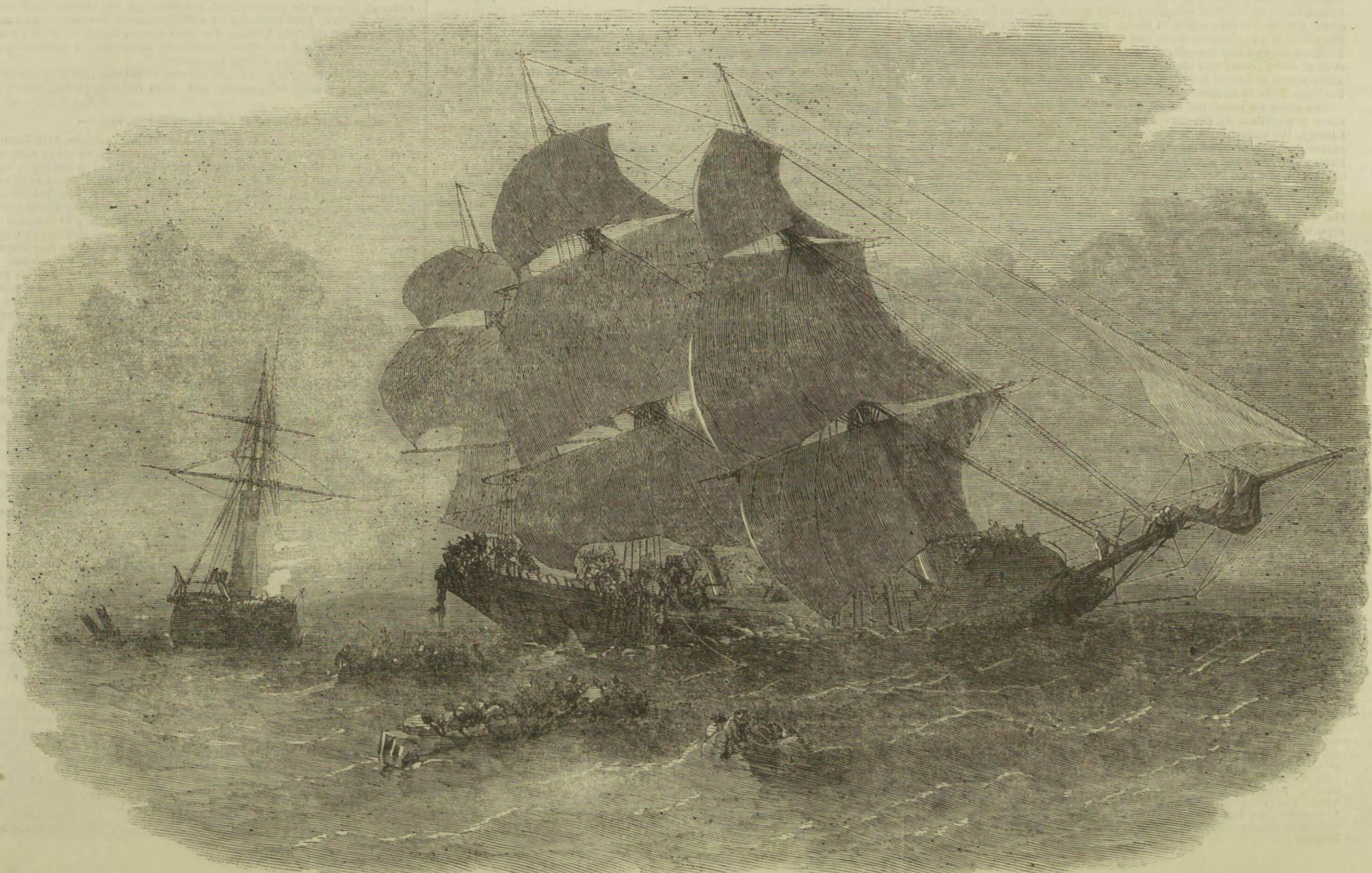
A VERY valuable specimen of this almost extinct bird was, on the 3rd of January, taken near Hungerford, in Berkshire, just on the borders of Wiltshire. It has been seen by the celebrated ornithologist,

Mr. William Yarrell, and is by him represented to be a young male bird, of the third year. It is unquestionably the only male specimen of the Great Bustard which has been taken for some years in this country. An interesting paper on the Bustard appeared in *Fraser's Magazine* of September, 1854, and is well worthy of perusal. The author of that commu-

nication (believed to be the Rev. Charles Badham) mentions that in 1843 a Bustard was shot between Helston and the Lizard Point; but this was a female bird. It is added that "this is the first instance of the capture of the Great Bustard in Cornwall, and the last instance known to us of this noble species in Great Britain." Mr. Yarrell, however, in a paper



THE LAWRENCE TESTIMONIAL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



COLLISION IN THE ENGLISH CHANNEL, BETWEEN THE STEAMER "MANGERTON" AND "THE JOSEPHINE WILLIS."—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

The wound in the leg is stated to have been a *stale wound*, and Mr. Rowland is of opinion was the result of shot by a *ball* and not a common charge, as the limb was not shattered, but broken off. The weight of the bird when captured was thirteen pounds and a half; and it measured from tip to tip of the wings six feet three inches.

The artist who produced the design and executed the model is Mr. Alfred Brown, whose works, as connected with this establishment, are so frequently noticed. He was the recipient of one of the medals at the French Exhibition; and of which, including the Grand Médaille d'Honneur and the Médaille d'Honneur, nine were awarded to this house and to their artists.

The Folkestone jury, in their verdict respecting the death of three of the unfortunate sufferers, remark that "there appears to have been a great want of humanity on the part of the crew of both ships, in not sending assistance to the passengers of the ship whilst they had it in their power to do so; and we believe that, if proper efforts had been made, many more lives would have been saved."

THE PEACE CONGRESS.—The Earl and Countess of Clarendon will reside, during the Conference, at the Hôtel Bristol, which has been engaged for the accommodation of our Foreign Secretary of State and his suite. His Lordship will be accompanied by his private secretary, the Hon. Spencer Ponsonby, and by Messrs. C. Spring Rice, John Bidwell, J. C. Vivian, and Villiers Lister—all of the Foreign-office; and by the Hon. Julian Paue, who is attached to her Majesty's Mission at Vienna. Mr. E. Hammond and Lord Wodehouse, Under Secretaries of State, will remain in London, and superintend the business of the Foreign-office during the absence of Lord Clarendon. Aali Pacha, the Ottoman Plenipotentiary, will not arrive before the 18th or 19th. It is still doubted whether it is possible for the conferences to begin on the 20th.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

GRAND BANQUET TO ADMIRAL SIR EDMUND LYONS.—The Lord Mayor gave a grand banquet on Wednesday night, in the Egyptian-hall, Mansion-house, to Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons and several other gallant officers who have recently returned from the seat of war. His Lordship gave "The Army and Navy," complimenting both services on their past deeds, and expressing his conviction that, should the negotiations fail, they would show themselves worthy of their country in the ensuing campaign. Sir C. Wood returned thanks for the Navy; General Buckley for the Army. The Lord Mayor, in proposing the health of Sir Edmund Lyons, referred to the gallant deeds he had performed in his early life. If Sir Edmund Lyons were asked where were his naval battles in the Black Sea? he might ask where was the Russian fleet, or did it exist at all? It was Sir E. Lyons and his brave seamen that had virtually destroyed that fleet, or rather forced it to commit *felo de se*. Sir E. Lyons, in returning thanks, said it was very sad indeed that her Majesty's fleet had had no opportunity of coming face to face with the enemy; for never was the English fleet in a greater state of efficiency than it exhibited at present (loud cheers). The ships of each class were as near perfection as could be attained—far superior than at any former period. Sir C. Wood, in returning thanks on behalf of "her Majesty's Ministers," said that if the present negotiations should fail, our fleets and army were in such a state of preparation as must ensure our success in the resumption of the war. To be prepared for war was the best way to preserve peace, for what was so fatal as trusting to the generosity of your opponents?

ASSOCIATION IN AID OF THE DEAF AND DUMB.—A social meeting of this Association was held on Tuesday evening, in Fitzroy-hall, Little Portland-street; Mr. Shirley Woolmer in the chair. In addressing the meeting, which consisted of about 200 respectable deaf and dumb persons of both sexes, the chairman explained the objects of the Association, which were to benefit, religiously and morally, the deaf and dumb, and, through qualified agents selected from their own afflicted class, to give them advice and aid when suffering from oppression, or any other cause. In the course of his observations the chairman alluded to the erection of places of worship for the preaching of the Gospel in their own language of signs, and to the establishment of a magazine and library for their especial use. Messrs. Baker, Hayard, Barry, Bather, and other deaf and dumb gentlemen, then addressed the meeting by the finger language, informing those who were following their signs of their high appreciation of the benevolent objects of the institution. After the presentation of a gift from deaf and dumb ladies and gentlemen—a Bible to be used at the first place of worship opened by the association at the west end of the metropolis—and the appointment by those present of six gentlemen as their nominees, Mr. C. E. Harle, a member of the Syro-Egyptian Society, commenced a lecture "On the life, character, trial, and execution of Sir Thomas More," which was cleverly communicated by the finger language to the mutes present by the secretary, Mr. Smith.

THE LORD'S DAY OBSERVANCE MOVEMENT.—On Saturday last Lord Palmerston received a numerous deputation of ministers and laymen, of all Evangelical denominations, headed by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Archbishop of Canterbury, having briefly addressed his Lordship on the character of the question at issue, urging the close connection between our national Sabbath and the public maintenance of religion in the land, and pointing out the unanimity of all Christian bodies in upholding the present legal sanctions of the Lord's Day, read an address. Lord Palmerston acknowledged the importance of the question. In a matter involving Parliamentary action he, as an individual member of Government, did not like to pledge his colleagues without first consulting them. They would, however, meet that afternoon, and he would bring the subject of the address before them.

NOVEL PROCESSION IN THE CITY.—Considerable curiosity was excited last Sunday morning in the immediate vicinity of the Mansion-house, in consequence of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Aldermen Kennedy and Rose, the two Sheriffs, W. Cubitt, Esq., M.P., and a great number of gentlemen belonging to the Court of Common Council, in their robes of office, walking in procession from the Mansion-house to the church of the united parishes of St. Mary Woolnoth and St. Mary Woolchurch Haw, at the corner of Lombard-street, where the civic functionaries met the Most Rev. the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, who had undertaken to preach a sermon in behalf of the Langbourn Ward charity schools. The spacious church soon became densely crowded; so much so, that shortly after the commencement of Divine service it was found necessary to close the outer gates of the sacred edifice. His Grace delivered a most eloquent and appropriate sermon, in which he advocated the peculiar and pressing claims which the schools had upon all friends of Christian instruction. At the close of the service a collection was made, which was liberally responded to by the congregation.

LONDON AND COUNTY JOINT-STOCK BANKING COMPANY.—At the annual meeting of proprietors, held on the 7th instant, at the London Tavern, the report for the year ending the 31st December, 1855, was read, from which it appeared that the net profits of the bank for the past half-year, after making due provision for bad and doubtful debts, amount to £34,005 8s. 10d., which, with £13,693 1s. 2d., brought forward from the half-year ending the 30th June, and £5,275 10s. 4d., the balance of the reserve fund, in excess of £100,000, leaves a disposable sum of £52,974 0s. 4d. The report having been received and adopted, it was unanimously resolved that a dividend at the rate of ten per cent per annum be declared upon the capital stock of the company, for the half-year ending the 31st December, 1855, together with a bonus of £5 per cent, both clear of the Income-tax, payable on and after Monday, the 18th of February instant; and that the balance of £4,842 18s. 2d. remaining to the credit of the profit and loss account be appropriated as follows, viz.—£4,234 18s. 9d. be presented to the officers of the bank, £500 be placed to the credit of the Sadleir Provident Fund, and £107 19s. 5d. be carried to the next account.

THE OMNIBUS MOVEMENT.—The smaller omnibus proprietors are fast following the example of their larger brethren, and falling within the circle of the London General Omnibus Company. The suburban amalgamations are becoming numerous. Among those which have lately taken place are the vehicles, stock, and times of Mrs. Edmonds, from Camberwell-gate to St. John's Wood; from the Swiss Cottage to London-bridge; from the Angel, Islington, to Sloane-square, Chelsea; and from Paddington to the Bank, by the New-road; those of Mr. Andrews from Kensal-green Cemetery to London-bridge station; those of Mr. Stanbrook from Kilburn-gate to Whitechapel; the Royal Blues of Messrs. Clarke and Ingram (seventeen in number) from Pimlico to the Blackwall Railway; those of Mr. Siborne from Kilburn-gate and the Royal Oak by Paddington to the Bank; with Mr. Unett's, which run over the same district; Mr. French's from Lower Edmonton and Tottenham to Oxford-street; and Mr. Rickard's Atlas, New-road, and Royal Oak omnibuses. Mr. Cotton and Mr. Siborne's short mile omnibuses from the Marble Arch to Farringdon-street have also been sold into the general alliance under the Anglo-French company, making in all 320 omnibuses, or three-eighths of the present traffic of London. In the three weeks that have intervened since the working of the company, the price of oats has fallen from 32s. a quarter to 23s., which, as their weekly consumption already amounts to 1500 sacks, gives an unexpected benefit to the new shareholders of £357 weekly.

DESTRUCTION OF THE PAVILION THEATRE BY FIRE.—On Wednesday morning, at a few minutes before eight o'clock, the inhabitants of Whitechapel were alarmed by a report that the Royal Pavilion Theatre was on fire. In a few minutes the Fire Brigade was present; but by that period the whole of the flies were in a blaze, and the burning drapery was falling thickly upon the stage. In less than half an hour after the first appearance of the fire the flames had seized upon the pit, and also the boxes and proscenium. To stop the fire at those places the firemen exerted themselves to the utmost, but unfortunately without the least success; and in the course of a few minutes the conflagration laid hold of the roof, and, seizing the chandelier, it suddenly fell into the pit, where the crystal drops soon became reduced to misshapen masses. The flames by a quarter to nine o'clock were at their height, for every part of the theatre except the dressing-rooms in Baker's-row presented one immense body of flame, and the glass chandeliers in front of the boxes kept cracking and falling in rapid succession round the house; when all of a sudden the roof fell with a noise like a clap of thunder, which so alarmed the inmates of the surrounding houses that they rushed into the street. The flames, on the roof falling, mounted so high into the air as to be visible for miles distant, although daylight; and by ten o'clock every part of the establishment was reduced to a heap of smoking ruins. Mrs. Connorton, the proprietress of the building, was insured for the machinery, wardrobe, and the theatre in the Phoenix and Monarch Fire-offices. Messrs. Elphinstone and Neale, the present lessees, who have lost a vast quantity of property by the disastrous event, were not insured for a single penny. The whole of the performers employed on the establishment have lost their wardrobes, and, what is still worse, none of the artists or others employed in the theatre were insured for a single penny. The theatre was originally erected for a floor-cloth factory; but in the year 1828, after the fall of the Brunswick Theatre, it was converted into a place of entertainment.

FIRE IN CLERKENWELL.—Thursday morning, at a quarter-past six o'clock, a fire broke out on the extensive premises of Mr. I. White, mahogany and timber merchant, Yardley-street, Exmouth-street, Clerkenwell. The premises in question cover a large area of ground, and are connected with houses on all sides. The stores were left quite safe on the previous evening. Some of the neighbours, on getting up, observed sparks issuing from the building, and immediately informed the police, who sent for the fire-escape and engines, both of which quickly arrived. In spite, however, of the exertions of the firemen the work of devastation continued, and stack after stack of timber kept falling, while huge volumes of flame extended on every side, and speedily caught the houses in Exmouth-street. By ten o'clock, however, the fire was subdued. The loss is estimated at between £20,000 and £30,000.

THE CASE OF DR. VAUGHAN.—On Saturday last the trial of Dr. Vaughan was brought to a close. The second indictment charged him with having knowingly, wilfully, and feloniously made a false entry in the registry of the parish of St. Matthew, Brixton, of and concerning the burial of one William Raven. Serjeant Wilkins, Mr. Clarkson, and Mr. Clerk conducted the prosecution. The Attorney-General, Mr. Ballantine, and Mr. Pridaux appeared on behalf of Dr. Vaughan. During the examination of Miss Emma Vaughan Mr. Serjeant Wilkins rose, and stated that, with the consent of the churchwardens, he would withdraw from the prosecution. The evidence of the servant and of the young ladies appeared to him to be so overwhelming, and it was so evident that they were speaking the truth, and they contradicted the witnesses for the prosecution so distinctly, that he felt compelled to state the conviction that was created in his mind to the churchwardens, and they at once sanctioned the course he had taken. He would now, with his Lordship's sanction, withdraw from the prosecution, and he felt a great deal more satisfaction at so doing than in obtaining a verdict against truth. There was a burst of cheering at the conclusion of the observations of the learned Serjeant, which was with difficulty repressed. Mr. Justice Wightman said it appeared to him that the prosecution had been instituted under a mistaken notion on the part of the churchwardens, as to the facts. The jury then returned a verdict of "Not Guilty."

FORGED BANK OF ENGLAND NOTES.—On Saturday last information was received at the Bank of England that a number of men are at the present time passing forged notes in London and different parts of the country, and it is expected that the crime will be carried to a still greater extent unless some of the offenders are speedily apprehended.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

The following is an account of the composition of the British naval force in commission on the 1st of January, 1856:—

Where Stationed.	No. of Ships.	Guns.	Complement.
Mediterranean and Black Sea ..	69	1123	12,774
East Indies, China, and Australia ..	11	18	3291
West Coast of Africa ..	14	84	1325
Cape of Good Hope ..	7	73	897
South-East Coast of America ..	8	107	1102
West Coast of America ..	9	234	2147
North America and West Indies ..	21	468	4874
Particular Service ..	14	267	2676
Surveying Service ..	5	22	303
Portsmouth ..	14	242	1534
Plymouth ..	6	204	904
Sheerness ..	7	276	910
Pembroke ..	2	—	263
Woolwich ..	3	43	62
Queenstown ..	6	134	1413
Yachts ..	3	2	138
Unappropriated, refitting, and fitting out, which includes the Baltic fleet now home ..	100	2195	24,242
Ordered home ..	19	428	4540
Total ..	325	6231	63,335

On Wednesday last there were in commission, at Portsmouth only, fifty-four sail of men-of-war; there were also one first-rate of 131 guns, one second-rate of 90, two frigates of 50, and a store-ship of 42 (all screws), two paddle steam-sloops of 6—nearly all ready for the pendant; also five mortar-vessels (the *Blazer*, *Prompt*, *Porpoise*, *Havoc*, and *Cupid*) quite ready for service. Thus at Portsmouth alone there were sixty-five men-of-war.

The several regiments forming the army in the Crimea are distributed as follows:—The Light Division, First Brigade—7th and 23rd Fusiliers, 33rd and 34th Regiments, and the 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade; Second Brigade—19th, 77th, 88th, 90th, and 97th Regiments; two Batteries, E and Y, of Artillery. The First Division, Brigade of Guards—3rd Battalion of Grenadier Guards, 1st Battalion Coldstreams, and 1st Battalion Scots Fusilier Guards; Second Brigade—the 9th, 13th, 31st, and 56th Regiments, and X Battery of Artillery. Second Division, First Brigade—3rd (Buffs), 30th, 55th, and 95th Regiments; Second Brigade—41st, 47th, 49th, and 62nd Regiments; B and G Batteries of Artillery. Third Division, First Brigade—4th, 14th, 39th, and 50th Regiments; Second Brigade—18th, 28th, 38th, and 44th Regiments; E and W Batteries of Artillery. Fourth Division, First Brigade—17th, 20th, 21st, 57th, and 63rd Regiments; Second Brigade—46th, 48th, 68th, and 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade. Highland Division, First Brigade—42nd, 70th, 92nd, and 93rd Highlanders; Second Brigade—1st and 2nd Battalions, 1st Foot, 71st and 72nd Highlanders—the former is at Yenikaleh; A and H Batteries of Artillery. Royal Artillery—11 Field Batteries, A, B, E, F, G, H, P, Q, W, X, Y; two heavy brigades—J and V Batteries (Karanyi); two-and-a-half Troops Horse Artillery (A.I.), Karanyi; and 29 Companies Siege Train, 18 of which are at Balaklava Heights. Royal Engineers, 1st (Balaklava), 2nd, 3rd, 4th (Sebastopol), 7th, 8th, 9th (Highland Division), 10th (Light Division), and 11th (Sebastopol), Companies of Sappers and Miners. At Balaklava—18 Companies of Artillery and the 82nd and 89th Regiments. The Cavalry are stationed at Scutari, the Ottoman Contingent are at Kertch, the Osmanli Irregulars at Varna, the British German Legion at Kulule.

The second pier which was commenced about three months ago at the Arsenal-wharf, Woolwich, will be ready for service in about three weeks. This will considerably augment the capabilities of landing and shipping, and, as vessels of heavy tonnage will be enabled to moor alongside in any tide, the use of barges will be superseded. A spacious platform branches off on each side of the pier, provided with a double line of tramway, and extends a sufficient length to admit the loading of four ships at the same time. Four cranes are about to be erected on the platform, and are to be served by hydraulic pressure. The apparatus for this purpose is in the course of erection, under the supervision of Colonel Beaton, commanding Royal Engineers. This will be applied for the joint purposes of working the whole of the numerous cranes along the Arsenal-wharf side.

The newly-erected barrack huts at Pembroke Dockyard are to be immediately filled with militia. The troops ordered to move for this purpose are the Montgomeryshire Rifles and the North Gloucestershire Militia. The present arrangements are, that the former regiment, jointly with the Pembrokeshire Artillery, are to occupy the permanent fortified barracks, and the North Gloucestershire and Monmouthshire Militia are to be quartered in the wooden barracks—the Monmouth regiment moving from the regular barracks for this purpose. Thus there will be four regiments of militia stationed at Pembroke. These ranges of wooden barracks have been constructed to hold 1000 men and their officers, and have been fitted with every convenience. They are well drained, and supplied with good water, and situated on the hill at Hobb's Point.

On Sunday last the steam-transport *Ripon* left Southampton Docks, having on board the 1st battalion of the Swiss Legion, and a quantity of ammunition for conveyance to Smyrna.

The sum required to be voted in the year ending the 31st March, 1857, to make good the deficiency of the vote of last Session, for defraying the expenditure of the Mint for the various medal services in the year ending 31st March, 1856, is £80,000. The sum of £52,500 was voted for this service last Session; but, it having been subsequently decided to present the Crimean medal to the troops of the Allies, the provision made was inadequate, and the sum of £80,000 is required to carry on the work at the Mint to the 31st March, 1856. The expense of Army and Navy medals will henceforward be provided for in the estimates for the two services.

On Wednesday morning the draughts of the Scots Fusilier Guards and Coldstream Guards, which have been for some days under orders for the Crimea, left town about seven o'clock, amid a good deal of enthusiasm on the part of a large number of persons who congregated to witness their march from the Wellington and St. George's Barracks to the South-Western terminus. There were about 260 of the Coldstreams, and 230 of the Fusiliers, and their appearance was very good, most of them being slight, well "set-up," active young fellows, in the best possible spirits.

On Monday last the South Mayo Rifles, numbering above 700 men, were drawn up in the barrack-yard, Dublin; and, an order for volunteering into the regiments of the Line having been read, more than 300 men at once stepped to the front.

The pontoon mortar-raft has returned to Woolwich from Shoeburyness, having gone through the second series of experiments with Col. Chalmers's ten-inch howitzer-gun. Since the pontoon metal has been strengthened, all the experiments have turned satisfactorily, consequently the raft has been pronounced in perfect service condition.

A curious experiment was tried on Monday last in the Arsenal marshes at Woolwich, with a new description of shell, the invention of Mr. Stevens. A piece of wood fitting the bore of the gun was attached to a shell, according to the inventor's contrivance, to accelerate its flight, which he expected would be a very long one. Several of the shells were then fired from a six-pounder gun; and, in each instance, the wood was shattered in pieces, and the shell rolled to a distance of about two hundred yards. In fact, the experiment completely failed.

PORTSMOUTH garrison presents just now the appearance of a town beleaguered from the sea, and the garrison preparing busily for its defence. A large fleet of ships and gun-boats is at anchor in the roadstead off the town, and new batteries and quarters for soldiers are being constructed rapidly within the walls of the fortress. The Government are also endeavouring to negotiate for a large extent of house property in Green-road and the rear, for further enlarging the barrack accommodation, and this to the extent (says military rumour) of 30,000 men. If so, Portsmouth and its adjacent dependencies must become almost exclusively a citadel.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE racing season opened cheerlessly enough, as regards weather, in the Lincoln meadows on Tuesday and Wednesday last; and that cleverest of light-weights, Fordham, rode the first winner. Eight out of the nine two-year-olds met the starter's eye, and a half-length verdict was given in favour of an Alarm colt (Wells), who is not in the Derby or St. Leger. The stock of Grecian and Vatican (two untired sires, and beautiful specimens of the Epirus and Venison blood) ran into the second and third places respectively. Mr. Johnson had also good reason to be satisfied with the result of his first handicap this year, as the three leaders finished within half a length. Pandango, 8st. 5lb., has accepted for the Great Northern Handicap, where Ratanplan gives him 16lb., and Riffeman 5lb., and thus the Ascot Cup issue will not improbably be forestalled. The race between the three, whether over Knavesmire or Ascot, will be one of immense interest, as Yorkshire will almost to a man stick by their favourite "red spots" champion, in preference to the "green" of The Squire, or the "red" of the "Thellusson Trust," which, by-the-by, finally vested on the death of Mr. Thellusson, Senior, at Brighton, last week. We may, therefore, perchance see the Pigburn training-ground, over which crops are now springing, add an eighth St. Leger winner to its bead-roll. The entries for the six great Spring Handicaps this year are 57 in advance of last year; and the acceptances are also in a majority of 30. Dan Dawson was supposed to have reached the acme of high art in horse-poisoning when he drugged Lord Foley's brood mare troughs by the aid of a syringe; but some modern ruffian has quite rivalled him by introducing arsenic in a carrot into John Scott's stable, and killing Aurifer by mistake for Fly-by-Night. Ellington's Derby risks have also begun; and, although his enemies have failed in their first attempt to break open his stable-door, his trainer's life between this and the afternoon of the Derby day will be no sinecure. We understand that 401 race-horses, or just one-fourth of the number we have in the United Kingdom, are at present in training in France. With them Chantilly corresponds to our Newmarket, and 190 out of the 401 are trained there.

Ion and the Baron—whose blood, like that of Gladiator, we began to prize too late—are in high favour among the French breeders, who have just imported that "bad mover," the high-bred Dirk Matteraick. The gigantic Nabob has gone to the stud; and Bon Mot—who cost the Duke of Bedford 3000 guineas, and was used as a mere heath hack very shortly after his purchase—was sold at Tattersall's last week for 27 guineas. Exact and May Fair are both at Kingston's paddocks, and an Arab is also a candidate for public favour, on the ground that he was selected by Omer Pacha, from his surpassing swiftness, to bear the news of the raising of the siege of Silistria to the Allied forces at Varna.

The recent successful right-and-left shot of the Highland gillie at two eagles has been rivalled by Colonel Bentinck, who brought down two deer and wounded a third with one crack of his rifle; and the great grouse-shooting question, which ended in a drawn battle between the Earl of Lonsdale and Mr. Rigg, in the Exchequer, will be reargued before all the Judges in the Exchequer Chamber next term.

We are forcibly reminded of the notorious disagreement between the English and Scotch law on the liability of an owner whose dog is found worrying sheep for the first time, by the announcement that the Baby foxhounds broke out of their kennel lately and killed forty sheep, while the bulldog, who keeps watch and ward over Riffeman, at Hsley, is credited with fifty-six victims. This is almost as bad as the savage dog-epicure who harried the flocks on the Border for a whole season at the beginning of the present century, like another moostrooper, and ate nothing but the fat about the kidneys.

The descendants of Mocking Bird—one from each of her—Motley, Mathematics, and Egypt litters, have just been especially lucky over the plains of Newmarket, where she was almost invincible in her day. Coursing meetings are very plentiful, though the wet weather makes the trials anything but satisfactory. The Cork Southern Club hold their tryst at Killady Hill on Tuesday; Limerick, Appleby (open), and Middleton (Westmorland) are fixed for Tuesday and Wednesday; Hordley for Wednesday; and Selby and Southport (open) Finish for Wednesday and Thursday. To these succeed Dirlerton Club and Champion (open), and Red Dial (Wigton) on Thursday, North Union (Antrim) and Amphill on Friday, and Chantley (open) on Friday and Saturday.

The steeplechases have, on the contrary, but scanty fare, consisting of a mixed meeting at Derby on Tuesday, a steeplechase at Nareth (Haverford West) on the same day, and three steeplechases at Bristol on Thursday.

News from the salmon fisheries is everywhere cheering. The followers of the gentle craft on the Derwent declare that they can recreate their eyes with forty of them lying together at times in the pools; and the last report of the Irish fisheries speaks most hopefully of their prospects, as well as of the progress in artificial rearing. We understand that the eggs have been hatched in a tumbler within sixty-six days after impregnation, whereas one hundred and twenty days is often required for the process, when it goes on in an open pond.

LINCOLN SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY.

Trials—Tame Deer, 1. Fisherman, 2.
All-aged Selling Stakes—Clare, 1. Ida, 2.
Two-year-old Stakes—Amorous Boy, 1. Annot Lyle, 2.
Grand Steeplechase—Escape, 1. Hopeless Star.

WEDNESDAY.

Lincoln Spring Handicap Stakes—Flageolet, 1. Vanessa, 2.
Hunters' Steeplechase—Tom Gurney, 1. Johnny Raw, 2.
Two-Year-Old Selling Stakes—Magistrate, 1. Delilah, 2.
Handicap Hurdle Race—Stamford, 1. Freedom, 2.
Selling Steeplechase—Fanny Wynn, 1. Miss Bambygh, 2.

TATTERSALL'S—THURSDAY EVENING.

LIVERTHOL STEEPLCHASE.—10 to 1 agst Sir Peter Laurie (t); 1000 to 40 agst Jemmy the Black (t); 1000 to 40 agst Jean de Queue (t).
CHIEFEST CUP.—12 to 1 agst Yellow Jack; 100 to 6 agst Yorkshire Grey (off.); 50 to 1 agst Stork (t).
GREAT NORTHERN.—7 to 1 agst Pandango (t).
TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.—3 to 1 agst Yellow Jack (t); 9 to 2 agst Fly-by-Night (t).
DERBY.—9 to 1 agst Ellington (t); 15 to 1 agst Rogerthorpe; 30 to 100 abt out Day's lot (t).

EXHIBITION AT THE BRITISH INSTITUTION

THE remarkable feature of the present Exhibition is its unlooked-for absence of support from the members of the Royal Academy. In former years at least a dozen of the forty Royal Academicians were conspicuous exhibitors at this the earliest exhibition of each year. Gradually the number has fallen from twelve to six, and from six to four. Last year the number was four. This year the number is only one. We miss Messrs. Creswick and F. R. Lee, always delightful contributors of English spring landscapes to a February Exhibition. We could spare the only Academician, Mr. M. W. Pickersgill, R.A., whose solitary contribution—a lachrymiferous half-Turkish lady, of doubtful country and costume, is here labelled with four lines from "Lalla Rookh," rather poor in themselves, and not appropriate to the picture.

Only four Associates of the Royal Academy—viz., Mr. Sidney Cooper, Mr. E. W. Cooke, Mr. Frank Stone, and Mr. Frost—are exhibitors on this occasion. Mr. Sidney Cooper contributes two pictures, clever repetitions of his well-known style—admirable representations of English meadow scenery about his native Canterbury. Of the two, we prefer "Sunset on the Meadows" (No. 23), dated, we observe, "31st Dec. 1855." Here we have cows painted with a Paul Potter touch and the knowledge of an Islington dairyman. Mr. Cooper is never happier on canvas than he is in cows. To him the advice may well be given which was given to Boswell, the biographer of Johnson. Boswell was fond of imitations, and delighted an expectant pit in a theatre with an imitation so happy that there was a call for other bestial noises from the same human mouth. Jamie tried a second and a third, but not with the same success, when his friend who accompanied him whispered this piece of sensible advice, "Stick to the cow, mon." Jamie repeated "the cow," and was again received with approbation from the house. So we say to Sidney Cooper, "Stick to the cow, Sidney." "Crummie" has done good service to Sidney Cooper: "aft has she warned the bairns' mon." Observe the dexterous handling in the left corner of this beautiful "Sunset in the Meadows."

"Canaletti Cook," as his friends delight to call him, since he deserted "Port Ruysdael" for Venice, is a prolific exhibitor—exhibiting, in all, five pictures. Their titles are characteristic of his style: "A Cool Day in Venice" (17), painted on the spot; "Fagade of San Giorgio," &c., Venice—a Warm Evening" (95); "A Rainy Day on the Lagune of Venice" (127), a sketch on the spot; "Danish Fishing Craft on the Elbe at Blankenese—Low Water" (245); "San Clemente on the Lagune of Venice—Sunset" (405), painted on the spot. The four Venetian views present his intimate knowledge of architecture and perspective, his fine sense of distance, and his occasional hardness of man-

OPENING OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

ner. Mr. Cooke never plays pranks with a scene, as Turner almost invariably did; but is content to seize the best view, and adhere to the actual scene.

Mr. Frank Stone's single contribution occupies the well-known position of the centre, over the fireplace in the North Room. It is a cabinet picture very carefully finished, of two Calais girls, painted at half-length, with pretty peasant faces, and a sweet expression on each face. Its title in the Catalogue (Mr. Stone is a careful hunter after titles) is "A la Ducaise—Pas de Calais." As a small specimen of a favourite painter in his favourite manner, this is a good example.

Mr. Frost, among the most refined of living painters, exhibits a "Nymph and Cupid" (231) in his usual chaste, careful, and poetic style.

Having paid all due honour to the Academy, we shall pass to the pictures by artists not members of the Academy.

The novelty of the Exhibition is a large picture in oil colours, by that master in water-colour art, Louis Haghe. For what we take to be his first publicly-exhibited attempt in oil, Mr. Haghe has selected the interior of a church of Florence, "The Choir of the Church of Santa Maria Novella." With all the unquestionable merit to be seen in every part of this picture, we miss, we are sorry to say, that charm and dexterity of touch which has put Mr. Haghe at the head of figure-painting in water-colour art. Here his figures look hard and stick to the canvas. When working in water colours his figures stand out from the rich leather hangings which surround them, and all but move and have being. By no means, however, would we dissuade Mr. Haghe from pursuing painting in oil colours. With his fine sense of light and shade, and his dexterity in drawing, he may accomplish in oils still greater triumphs than he has won so successfully in water-colour art. Three hundred pounds is the price of the picture, and not too much for it.

Perhaps the most ambitious picture in the collection is "The Martyrdom of Ridley and Latimer" (No. 60), by Sir George Hayter. As we have selected this picture for engraving we shall reserve our remarks upon it. The same cause must necessarily postpone the observations we would gladly make at once on the clever contributions to the Gallery made by Messrs. Ansdell, Lance, Holland, Hemslay, and Aster Corbould.

Our Engravings this week from the Institution are two in number: "The Cradle" (74) by Mr. D. W. Deane; and "Timber Clearing on the Hill-Side, Sussex" (158), by Mr. Henry Jutsum. We have selected "The Cradle" as a favourable specimen in oil colours of those features in Irish pea-



"THE CRADLE."—PAINTED BY D. W. DEANE.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

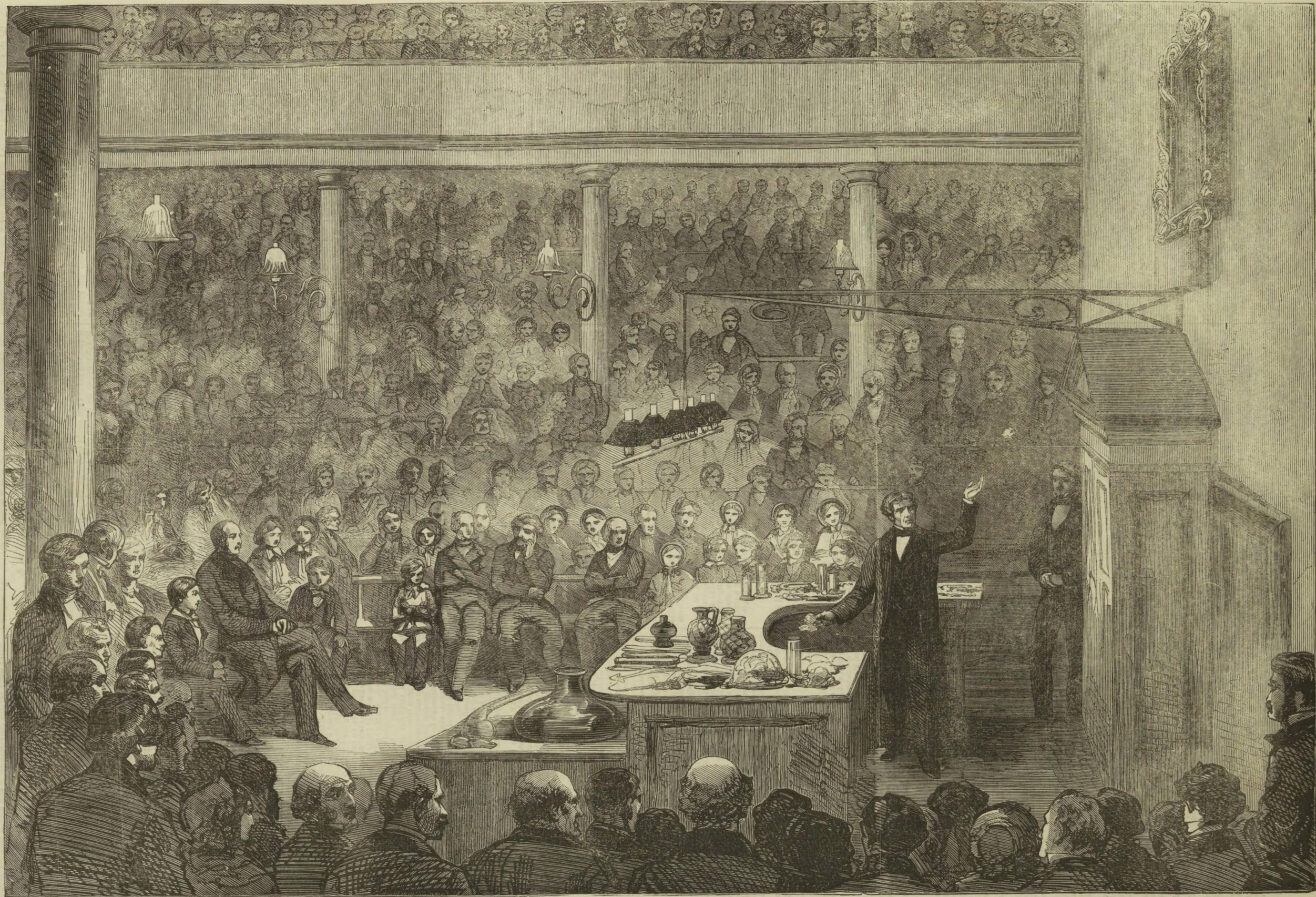
sant life which have made Mr. Topham so distinguished an artist, and by which Mr. Deane is so deservedly known. The "Scene in Sussex" we have selected as a careful rendering of some of the most beautiful characteristics of English landscape—as a picture which will justly add to Mr. Jutsum's reputation. Mr. Deane has a fine eye for colour and great dexterity of touch; and Mr. Jutsum has a true sense of the art of selection—that rare quality in a landscape painter.

There are pictures still to be mentioned that materially support the character of the Exhibition. Thus the "Bay of Baie" (2), by G. E. Hering, a small picture, is a fit ornament for the boudoir of Lady Mary Wortley Montague; Mr. Dearle's "English Landscape" (161), hung shamefully low, contains qualities which will arrest the attention of all careful observers of nature; the two flower pieces, "Azalias" (22), and "Magnolia" (91), by Miss Mutrie, would please Van Huysum, and obtain a first-class medal from Dr. Lindley; Mr. Telbin's picturesque "View of the Alhambra, as seen from San Christoval" (310), fully satisfies Mr. Richard Ford, from whose map-like sketches it was made; Mr. Buckner has "A Roman Piper" (177), replete with qualities that denote a marked improvement in his style; Mr. Hicks has a small picture on the screen, "Maternal Love" (393), very delicate in conception and touch; Mr. G. Smith has an excellent little picture, called "The Brother's Lesson" (109), in which he treads still closer on the heels of Mulready, the painter of his idolatry; Mr. Inskipp is as Inskipp always was, full of beauties and defects; Mr. Hayes and Mr. Wilson contend for the palm of excellence in representing maritime life—Mr. Hayes gives us, with an effective pencil, "A Fresh Breeze off Dublin Bay" (502); and Mr. Wilson exhibits "A View off Dover—Squally weather" (520) sufficiently indicating to what good account he has turned his residence at Folkestone.

With the mention of one more picture we must conclude our notice for the present. That picture is "The Ptarmigan's Haunt," by J. Wolf (339)—a marvellous piece of execution in every respect, smacking of the heather, the mountain and the breeze. The birds seem ready to spring from amid the grey stones and heather which surround them. The grey feathers of the birds and the grey nature of the stone—amid which they delight to haunt—form, however, too great a resemblance of grey tone. This fine picture will fully satisfy the sportsman; though, from the defect (inherent in the subject) it will fail to give equal satisfaction to the critic.



"TIMBER-CLEARING ON THE HILL-SIDE, SUSSEX"—PAINTED BY HENRY JUTSUM FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.



PROFESSOR FARADAY LECTURING AT THE ROYAL INSTITUTION, BEFORE H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES AND PRINCE ALBERT.—FROM A SKETCH BY ALEXANDER BLAICKLEY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE ROYAL INSTITUTION.

PROFESSOR FARADAY LECTURING BEFORE PRINCE ALBERT, THE PRINCE OF WALES, AND PRINCE ALFRED.

The leading object of the Royal Institution, in Albemarle-street, is the teaching of the Principles of Inductive and Experimental Science, and the exhibition of the Application of these Principles to the various Arts of Life. On each Friday evening during the session the members of the Institution and their friends assemble in the theatre to hear a discourse on the subject which he has studied; and almost every eminent philosopher in England has rendered the Institution this service. The list of the present year contains the names of Sir Charles Lyell; of Professor Rogers, of the United States; Thompson, of Glasgow; Owen and Hofmann; besides those of Faraday, Tyndall, and Huxley, the Professors of the Institution.

A short course of lectures, entitled the "Christmas Lectures," is also given at the Institution yearly, by Professor Faraday. They are specially adapted to a juvenile auditory; the subject of the course lately completed was the Distinctive Properties of the Common Metals. Each of these lectures was honoured by the presence of their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, who, at the first lecture, was accompanied by their Royal father, Prince Albert; and it was truly interesting to witness the profound attention with which the illustrious children received their earliest scientific impressions in such a place, and from such a teacher. The scene in the Theatre, with the young Princes and their father, Prince Albert, Professor Faraday at the lecture-table, and the attentive audience, was sketched by Mr. Alexander Blaikley, to be hereafter painted by him. Mr. Blaikley has obligingly placed his sketch at our engraver's disposal; and the result is the large illustration upon the preceding page, which will be regarded as a gratifying evidence of the care bestowed upon the early education of the Royal family, in thus introducing them to the culture of the higher branches of knowledge. In the sketch the Prince of Wales is seated on the right hand of Prince Albert, and Prince Alfred on his left.

The objects of the Royal Institution have been admirably carried out since it was first originated by Count Rumford, and Davy gave here his first lecture in London, and within the walls of the Institution began his brilliant career of chemical philosophy. The Laboratory has, from the first, been distinguished by its advancement of chemical and electrical science, by experiments and original investigations. Here the researches of Professor Davy and afterwards of Professor Faraday, extending over a period of nearly half a century, have been conducted; and the results of the investigations of this period include the laws of electro-chemical decomposition; the decomposition of the fixed alkalis; the establishment of the nature of chlorine; the philosophy of flame, the condensibility of many gases; the science of magneto-electricity; the twofold magnetism of matter, comprehending all known substances; and the magnetism of gases. To the honour of the Institution, the cost of these researches has been defrayed by the willing contributions of the members, without any aid from the Government of the country.

The Royal Institution has, indeed, been the source to the public of the highest scientific and literary instruction during the last half-century. Among many other eminent men, Coleridge, Campbell, Sydney Smith, Crotch, Dalton, Young, Babbage, Brande, Lyell, Faraday, Wheatstone, and Lardner, have here given lectures on the subjects which they have so successfully cultivated. The results from philosophical researches made in the laboratories of the Institution within the same period are second in importance to no contemporaneous investigations conducted by any other philosophical society; and such is the worth attached by Dr. Whewell, in his "History of the Inductive Sciences," to these investigations, that he designates the time in which they were made "the epoch of Davy and Faraday," and one of the periods of scientific chronology. The same system of experimental research is still pursued by Professor Faraday, the Fullerian Professor of Chemistry, as well as by the present Professor of Natural Philosophy, Dr. Tyndall.

THE COURT.

The Queen and Prince Albert left Windsor Castle at four o'clock on Monday afternoon, accompanied by the Royal family and suite. A special train conveyed the Royal party to the Paddington terminus, whence they proceeded in seven of her Majesty's carriages, escorted by a party of the 3rd Light Dragoons, to Buckingham Palace, where the Queen and Prince arrived at five minutes before five o'clock.

On Tuesday the Queen held a Court at Buckingham Palace, at which Count Björnström, Chamberlain to the King of Sweden, had an audience, and invested his Royal Highness Prince Albert with the Order of the Seraphim, by command of the King of Sweden. In the afternoon her Majesty and the Prince visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester House, and in the evening the Queen and his Royal Highness honoured the Olympic Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, visited the British Institution at Pall Mall, and afterwards the Architectural Exhibition in Suffolk-street.

The Countess of Desart has succeeded the Duchess of Wellington as the Lady in Waiting. Earl Somers and Mr. R. Ormsby Gore have relieved Lord Dufferin and Sir Edward Bowater as the Lord and Groom in Waiting to her Majesty.

The Countess Granville "received" on Wednesday evening, at the family mansion in Bruton-street. Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and Princess Mary honoured her Ladyship with their presence, arriving about eleven o'clock. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge was also present.

Viscountess Palmerston held her second assembly on Saturday evening at the Premier's mansion, on the Terrace, Piccadilly.

His Excellency Lord Cowley arrived at Dover on Wednesday afternoon, in the Government steam-ship *Vivid*, Captain Smithett, from Calais. His Excellency dined at Birmingham's Royal Ship Hotel, and came on to London by the evening express train.

The marriage of the Lady Emily Curzon, third daughter of Earl Howe, took place on the 5th inst., at Gopsall Hall, to Lieut.-Colonel Kingscote, C.B., M.P.

APPROACHING MARRIAGES IN HIGH LIFE.—A matrimonial alliance is arranged, and will shortly take place, between the Lady Jane Hay, daughter of the Marquis and Marchioness of Tweeddale, and sister of the Duchess of Wellington, and Sir Frederick Arthur, Bart. Lady Rachael Russell, youngest daughter of the late Duke of Bedford, and half-sister of Lord John Russell, is about to marry Lord James Wandesford Butler, son of the first Marquis of Ormonde. Sir Thomas Whicheote, Bart., is also about to lead to the altar Miss Montgomery, sister of Mr. Alfred Montgomery.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Prebendary:* The Rev. F. C. Cook to the prebendal stall in St. Paul's Cathedral. *Rectories:* Rev. C. Bowen to St. Mary's, Chester; Rev. R. A. St. Leger to Kenn, Devon; Rev. R. Mitchell to South Moreton, Berkshire; Rev. J. Nesbitt, to Deal, Kent; Rev. R. Skipwith, B.C.L., to Whelton, near Daventry; Rev. E. Rice, M.A., to Great Risington, Gloucestershire. *Vicarages:* Rev. E. J. Hillier to Cardington, near Bedford; Rev. E. J. Howman to Exhall, Warwickshire; Rev. H. H. Adcock, M.A., to Humberstone, near Leicester. *Incumbencies:* Rev. W. H. Hopkins to St. Paul's, Werneth, near Stockport; Rev. G. Proctor to Egton-cum-Newland, near Ulverston.

TESTIMONIALS.—On Thursday evening week the pupils of the Brixton-hill Collegiate School presented their principal, Mr. E. T. Wilson, and Mrs. Wilson, with a handsome silver épergne, as a grateful mark of respect and esteem.—The Rev. W. Henry Smythe, of Market Bosworth, also received one from the parishioners of Kirkby Mallory, Leicestershire.

KENT COUNTY OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL.—On Wednesday week, at a crowded meeting held in the Corn Exchange, Maidstone, Mr. John Woolcott, the surgeon to the Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital, was presented with a superb testimonial, purchased with funds principally subscribed by the working classes of the county, to show their sense of the value of Mr. Woolcott's services as the founder and promoter of the institution. The testimonial consisted of a bronze group of the "Laocoon," three feet high, on a black marble base with bas-reliefs. In the centre is a costly clock, chiming the quarters on eight bells, manufactured by Mr. Bennett, the well-known watchmaker of Cheapside, as exhibited by him at the recent Paris Exhibition. The case was supplied by Messrs. Jackson and Graham.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION.—Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, accompanied by Mr. Gibbs and Dr. Bekker, visited the Photographic Society's Exhibition, in Pall-mall East, on Thursday morning. They were received at the Gallery by the Rev. J. R. Major, Secretary to the Society, and remained for an hour and a half, carefully examining the pictures, with which they expressed themselves greatly interested and pleased.

MR. HANCOCK, of Bruton-street, has had the honour of receiving the commands of his Royal Highness the Regent of Baden for his marriage jewels, toilette, &c.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY, FEB. 8.

Earl GRANVILLE laid on the table of the House a bill to authorise the Government to create a Vice-President of the Council of Education. The Government proposed to appoint a member of the House of Commons to the office. Lord CAMPBELL suggested that, instead of appointing a Committee of Privileges to inquire into the peerage conferred on Sir James Parke, a new patent should be granted making the peerage hereditary.—The Earl of DERBY having concurred in the suggestion, the subject dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY, FEB. 8.

Mr. CORBEN drew attention to the state of our relations with America with regard to the construction of a canal through the Isthmus of Darien. The correspondence relating to this matter had been laid before the American Assembly, but because it was not officially published here this House could not discuss those documents. The Americans considered the correspondence concluded, and he, therefore, hoped the noble Lord would not refuse the production of the documents. In reference to the foreign enlistment in America, he admitted that when the United States complained to this country the Government apologised and withdrew her agents; but from some private quarrel between the Ministers of the two countries the matter was not likely to be so amicably arranged as was at first supposed. He, therefore, suggested that the Parliament should take the whole matter out of the hands of those Ministers and settle it themselves. He referred to articles that had lately appeared in the *Times* and *Morning Post*, the two organs of the Government, whose tendency was to inflame the animosities of this country against the Americans.

Lord PALMERSTON went through the negotiations of the Central American question, and the circumstances which led to the dispute between the two Governments. In order to prevent any disputes they had framed a treaty so fair that they thought no dispute could arise on it, but the American Government put a construction on that treaty contrary to that which the English Government could agree to, and they had forwarded their interpretation of the treaty to the United States Government, and had offered to refer the question to any third nation. The Americans had not yet answered that note, and so the matter rested for the present. The enlistment question had caused some misunderstanding with the United States Government; but, upon their making a complaint to this Government, the whole of those establishments had been withdrawn, and an apology offered, with which the Minister of that country had declared himself perfectly satisfied. He did not consider the correspondence referred to as finished, and therefore he had refused to produce it; but he had now no objection to lay it on the table. The noble Lord sat down amid loud cheers.

The Metropolitan Police Bill was read a third time and passed. The Partnership Amendment Bill was read a second time. After some discussion, the Joint-stock Companies Bill, the Burial of the Dead (Ireland) Bill, and the Youthful Offenders (Ireland) Bill, were read a second time.

Sir W. CLAY obtained leave to bring in a bill for the abolition of Church-rates, which he stated was the same as that he introduced last Session.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

THE CRIMEA REPORT.

The Earl of CARDIGAN complained of certain reflections upon his professional conduct contained in the Report of the Commissioners respecting the Management of the Army in the Crimea. He announced his intention of transmitting an exculpatory statement to the War Minister, and trusted that equal publicity would be officially given to his defence as to the attack on his character.

The Earl of LUCAN also charged the Commissioners with misrepresentation, and expressed some surprise that no notice had been taken of the explanations he had already addressed to the War Minister.

Lord PANMURE stated, in reply to Lord LUCAN, that his letter had been referred to the Commissioners, and would be laid on the table, together with their reply, in due time. All rejoinders which any officer might think proper to make to the allegations contained in the report would, he added, be officially promulgated, if properly sent to the War-office with that intent.

THE WENSLEYDALE PEERAGE.

Lord LYNCHURST having proposed that the Committee of Privileges on the Wensleydale peerage should meet at two o'clock next day,

Earl GREY inquired what would be the object and the character of the inquiry which was to be undertaken; and remarked upon the inconvenience that would attend the inauguration of so important and unusual an investigation without some previous indication of its special purpose?

Lord LYNCHURST insisted that the point to be investigated was simple and definite, involving merely the competence of the Crown to confer a peerage on life tenure. Besides the arguments which noble Lords might adduce upon this question, the Committee of Privileges would, he intimated, be invited to hear evidence on the subject from witnesses at the bar.

In the course of a lively conversation—in which the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Derby, Earl Granville, Lord Brougham, and other Peers took part—Lord ST. LEONARDS suggested that the meeting of the Committee should be postponed for a few days. Ultimately the subject dropped, the final understanding being that the Committee should meet next day, according to the original arrangement.

THE TRIAL OF OFFENCES BILL was read a second time, after a brief discussion.

Earl GREY urged some inquiries touching alleged omissions or discrepancies in the despatches sent by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe from Constantinople in 1853 and 1854.

The Earl of CLARENDON, in the course of his explanations on this point, passed a high eulogium on the zeal and diplomatic talents displayed by the British representative at the Porte; and stated that Lord Redcliffe had just succeeded in effacing much of the difficulty which might otherwise have attended the attempts at settling the Fourth Point, by securing for the non-Muslim subjects of Turkey a status which would be highly satisfactory to the Christian Powers of Europe.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

THE NAVY ESTIMATES.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS, in the view of a possible peace, recommended that the Estimates should at present be voted for only part of the year. He denied, however, any intention of crippling the public service in any branch, believing that a liberal expenditure upon preparations for war would render the contest briefer, and cheaper in the end.

The House then went into Committee of Supply.

Sir C. WOOD, in moving the Estimates for the Naval Service, stated that the amounts had been computed on the presumption that the war would continue without interruption, but only a part of each vote would be immediately asked for, leaving the residue for future discussion when the issue of the approaching Conference should be known. For the active force of the Navy it was intended to ask a vote of 66,000 seamen and marines, being 6000 more than last year, and 10,000 boys. The estimate for the wages of this force was £3,237,893, showing an increase of £352,356 beyond the amount granted last year; but of this gross total he should require a present vote of only £2,000,000. The First Lord then went through the subsequent items in the Estimates, stating and explaining the amount and causes of the increments which appeared upon almost every head in the charges for the ensuing twelve months. The grand total for the naval service reached £12,148,641, showing a net augmentation over the previous estimate of £291,135, besides a vote of £204,000 for the excess of expenditure incurred beyond the grants of the bygone Session. Respecting the Transport Service, Sir C. WOOD detailed the amount of duty which had fallen to that department during the year. In addition to almost incalculable quantities of *matériel* and provisions, 50,000 British troops, 5000 men of the Transport Corps, and 5000 men of the Foreign Legion had been transported from England to the Black Sea; 26,000 French troops from Marseilles or Toulon, and 19,000 Sardinians from Genoa to the same destination; 5000 Militia had been conveyed from British ports to the Mediterranean, and 138,000 men had been transferred from Malta or Corfu to the Crimea, and variously transported to and fro in the Black Sea. Besides this vast movement towards the seat of war, some 46,000 men had been conveyed homewards, making altogether 294,000 men embarked and conveyed on different voyages during the year. After enlarging upon the eminent services performed by the Navy, the right hon. Baronet recapitulated the steps that had been taken to enhance the strength and availability of this arm in the next campaign. Among other additions, he stated that 152 new gun and mortar boats were in course of preparation, augmenting to a total of 200 the number of that species of vessels which would be ready for service in the Baltic as soon as the campaign opened. Altogether, should war continue, they would be fully prepared to dispatch 350 pennants to the Baltic and 100 to the Black Sea, whenever the time arrived for resuming active operations.

The discussion of the successive votes on the Estimates was then proceeded with, and occupied some hours.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE WENSLEYDALE PEERAGE.

The House met at two o'clock, when they formed themselves into a Committee of Privileges, for the purpose of considering the motion of Lord Lynchurist relative to the Wensleydale peerage.

Lord LYNCHURST, in introducing the question, stated that within the last 400 years no instance had occurred in which a commoner had been called up to their Lordships' House to take his seat by virtue of a patent creating merely an estate or dignity in the Peer for life. He considered that two or three solitary instances occurring at a remote period, in very disorderly and troublesome times, before the Constitution had assumed anything like its present form or character, before the Petition of Right in the reign of Charles I., and more especially before the Bill of Rights at the time of the Revolution, could not justify an attempt to alter in any way the hereditary character of this House, and that any attempt to do so was inconsistent with the genius of the Constitution.

On the motion of the learned Lord, Mr. Hardy, the Keeper of Records at the Tower, was called to the bar, and examined relative to the creation of the Earl of Huntingdon for life in the reign of Richard II., and other patents relative to life peerages.

The LORD CHANCELLOR stated that in consequence of an accident his noble and learned friend Lord Wensleydale had been confined, and that the confinement had brought on a fit of the gout; but he anticipated that at the end of this week he would be able to come to town, when he would present himself with her Majesty's writ, demand admission to their Lordships' House, and insist upon his right to take his seat as a Peer.

After some further conversation, it was agreed that the search for the purpose of ascertaining whether there were any other patents for life peerages than the ones produced should be continued till Monday next.

Lord LYNCHURST did not know that they could then do anything better than to adjourn until Monday next. He therefore proposed an adjournment of the Committee until two o'clock on that day.

Lord CAMPBELL gave notice that when the House resumed he would move that Baron Parke should be heard by himself or his counsel in support of his claim to sit in the House.

The LORD CHANCELLOR could state, on the authority of his noble and learned friend Lord Wensleydale, that he would decline to take any part in those proceedings. His noble and learned friend considered—and, as he (the Lord Chancellor) believed, properly considered—the whole question was at present *coram non judice*. He meant to claim admission to the House by right of his patent alone, and he would respectfully decline to recognise the jurisdiction of that Committee in the case. He said he had received no intimation that that question had been referred by her Majesty to the House, and until he should receive such an intimation he could not recognise their right to deal with it.

Lord CAMPBELL said that that might be a very natural view of the question for his friend Baron Parke to entertain; but that was no reason why their Lordships should dispense with regularity in their proceedings.

Earl GRANVILLE could not help thinking that a decidedly unfavourable effect in reference to their Lordships' mode of proceeding would be produced on the public mind if they were then to adjourn for a whole week, without having determined what was the course they were to adopt in that matter.

Lord ST. LEONARDS said the noble and learned Baron—if that was the title by which they chose to call him—was a person for whom he had a very great respect, and whom he should be very glad to see take his seat in the House, if he came with a descendent title (Hear, hear); but if he came in any other shape they might depend upon it that the opinion of the House must be taken before the question could be satisfactorily settled.

The LORD CHANCELLOR wished to correct a misapprehension which seemed to have arisen in some quarters of a statement he had made on Thursday last. It had been supposed that he had stated that Lord Wensleydale had been selected in order to try the validity of the creation of a life peerage. Now, it was impossible that he could have made use of any such language. He solemnly protested that it had never occurred to him, until the evening before Parliament had met, that the validity of the proceeding could possibly be questioned. What he had really stated was, that it had occurred to her Majesty's Government that, if it were desirable to create life peerages, no better selection could be made for a commencement of the exercise of the power than Lord Wensleydale, who was not poor, and who was not likely to have any posterity to whom a title could be transmitted. On the first day of term his noble and learned friend the Chief Justice had suggested to him a doubt as to the policy of such a step; but had added that he had not the least doubt of its legality (Some laughter, and emphatic cries of "No, no," from Lord Campbell). His noble and learned friend said "No," and he (the Lord Chancellor) must, of course, have misunderstood him; but he protested most solemnly that his noble and learned friend had used language to him which he had so understood, although he must, no doubt, have understood it incorrectly.

Lord CAMPBELL said he would state, to the best of his recollection, what had passed between him and his noble and learned friend on the occasion in question. He had told his noble and learned friend that he had heard that Lord Wensleydale was to be called to the House of Lords as a Peer for life, and he had asked his noble and learned friend whether the rumour was a well-founded one. His noble and learned friend replied that it was; and he (Lord Campbell) then stated that he was sorry for that, as he should be obliged to make a row about the matter as soon as Parliament met.

Earl GRANVILLE said he had reason to believe that five years ago, at all events, his noble and learned friend had thought that the creation of a life peerage would be perfectly legal; and he should like to know the precise date since that period when his noble and learned friend had changed his opinion upon the subject.

Lord CAMPBELL said he had never formed any decided opinion one way or the other. In the course of the debate the other night he had frankly acknowledged that the impression on his mind had been that the Crown might create life peerages, because Coke had laid down that doctrine. He had not then been acquainted with the precedents either on one side or the other of the question. But when he came to examine the subject—when he found there had been no instance of any such creation for a period of 400 years, and no instance before that period—he had begun gravely to doubt the legality of the proceeding; and, unless he could find some instance in which the Crown had already made a Peer for life, he should come to the conclusion that it was beyond the Royal prerogative to create such a Peer.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE could see no good reason at the present moment why that peerage should be created merely for judicial purposes, and he was, therefore, at a loss to know why it had been granted if not to try as soon as possible the question of privilege which it involved.

Lord BROUGHAM observed, that it was difficult to imagine that they could have any other object in view, inasmuch as in the case of his learned friend, who had not, and who was not likely to have, a son, a hereditary and a life peerage were of precisely the same value—he might say—*res ipsa loquitur*.

Lord DUNGANNON remarked that although he as much as any man should rejoice at seeing a lawyer of Baron Parke's eminence elevated to the Peerage, yet he must deprecate strongly the unusual course which had been taken by her Majesty's Government to effect that object. It was a course which, if persevered in, would pave the way for the utter annihilation, dignity, and real independence of their Lordships' House (Hear, hear).

The CHAIRMAN then reported progress; and a motion for the adjournment of the Committee until two o'clock on Monday next was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

THE TURKISH CONFERENCES.

Mr. LAYARD asked the First Lord of the Treasury if it were true that the Sardinian Ambassador had been excluded from the Conferences now being held at Constantinople relative to the Principalities, and, if so, what were the reasons for excluding him?

Lord PALMERSTON explained that the Conferences alluded to, now being carried on between England, France, Turkey, and Austria, respecting the Principalities, had no reference to the war, but to the internal arrangements of the Turks. The Sardinian Ambassador had applied for admission, but the Ambassadors of France and England, having no instructions to that effect, refused, and communicated with their respective Governments for instructions; but, in the meantime, the Sardinian Minister had not been admitted.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

Mr. NAPIER moved—"That, in the opinion of this House, as a measure of administrative reform, provision should be made for an efficient and responsible department of public justice, with a view to secure the skilful preparation and proper structure of Parliamentary bills, and promote the progressive amendment of the laws of the United Kingdom." The right hon. gentlemen, in an able explanatory speech, pressed upon the House the necessity of effecting reforms in law commensurate with the exigencies of the times.

Mr. COLLIER seconded the motion. He thought the Lord Chancellor had too many duties to perform to allow him time to examine Acts of Parliament; and the Attorney and Solicitor Generals had many other duties to attend to, and could not give that attention to public acts which they required; and therefore he was of opinion that a department should be appointed whose sole business should be to consider and prepare all acts of a public nature.

Mr. BAINES, after complimenting the right hon. gentleman for bringing forward such a comprehensive and desirable motion, said the Government were about to appoint a Commissioner, whose business would be to superintend the legislation of the House of Commons; and he would suggest that the right hon. gentleman should wait till that appointment took place.

Sir G. GREY said the Commissioner the Government intended to appoint would have to prepare all bills, which would then be submitted to the Crown, and after that to Parliament. He entirely disapproved of the officer to be appointed being a Secretary of State, as had been suggested.

Lord J. RUSSELL concurred with Mr. Napier; but, after what had been said by the Secretary for the Home Department, he did not think the right hon. and learned gentleman could ask the House to pass that motion.

Mr. DRUMMOND could see no reason why the resolution should not be pressed upon the House.

Mr. MALINS did not think the appointment of a Minister of Public Justice would rectify the evils of our present legislative system.

Mr. EWART advocated the appointment of a Minister, as giving the motive power to the machinery necessary for the improvement of the Legislature.

Lord PALMERSTON thought that the question was of great importance; but, considering that the Statute Law Commission had under their consideration a proposal to submit to the Government that would go far towards meeting the views of the right hon. gentleman and the House at large, he hoped he would adopt the suggestion thrown out to postpone the motion until a later period of the Session.

After a short discussion,

Mr. NAPIER agreed to strike out the latter part of the resolution; and this amendment having been made, the resolution was agreed to.

OUR MONETARY SYSTEM.—Mr. MUNTZ postponed until the 21st inst. his motion for a Select Committee, to inquire into the working of our present monetary system.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.—On the motion of Mr. Scholefield a Select Committee was ordered to be appointed to inquire into the adulteration of food, drinks, and drugs.

DISQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS.—Mr. MITCHELL obtained leave to bring in a bill to repeal the Act 22nd Geo. III., disqualifying contractors from being elected to, or sitting and voting as members in, the House of Commons.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

FORMATION OF PARISHES, &c., BILL.—The Marquis of BLANDFORD moved the second reading of this bill, which would vest in the ecclesiastical commissioners the power of constituting parishes in certain districts, whether there was a church in them or not, and making them distinct from, and independent of, the mother parish.—Mr. HADFIELD objected to the bill, and moved the second reading that day six months; but upon receiving an assurance that it would be referred to a Select Committee he withdrew his opposition, and the bill was read a second time.

POLICE (COUNTIES AND BOROUGH) BILL.—On the motion for the second reading of this bill, Mr. Hadfield, Mr. Henley, Sir F. Baring, and many other honourable members, having asked for the postponement of the bill, Sir G. Grey said he would accede to the wishes of the House, and put off the second reading for a fortnight.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The Earl of DERBY, in calling their Lordships' attention to the case of Baron Fermoy, said he understood that a petition had been recently presented on behalf of the claimant of the title, which had been referred to the Committee of Privileges. Although for centuries past there has never arisen any difference between the Crown and the House of Lords, it was a curious fact that within the last year her Majesty's Government had involved the Crown in great difficulties with that House, in the creation of two new Peerages, each of which it was contended was unconstitutional and unjustifiable.—Earl GRANVILLE defended the conduct of the Government, and justified the new creation.—After a brief conversation, in which Lord Brougham, the Earl of Desart, and Lord Campbell took part, the subject dropped.

The TRIAL OF OFFENCES BILL was passed through Committee.

The Metropolitan Police Bill was read a second time.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH, in presenting a petition from certain seamen complaining of being obliged to go to sea in unseaworthy vessels, took occasion to call the attention of the Government to the necessity of adopting some measure to prevent the evil complained of. He recommended the appointment of a Select Committee on the subject.

Lord STANLEY of ALDERLEY admitted the importance of the subject, and said that the attention of the Government was directed to it.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at four o'clock.

Mr. LAYARD gave notice that he should postpone his motion until this day fortnight. It would be as follows:—"That this House has observed with regret that those officers whose conduct in their respective departments has been shown by the report of the Commission of Inquiry into the supplies of the British army in the Crimea to have occasioned great and unnecessary sufferings and losses in that army have received honours and rewards, or have been appointed to and are still holding responsible offices in the public service."

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH AUSTRALIA.—Mr. BAXTER asked the Secretary of State for the Colonial Department if her Majesty's Government were taking steps to re-establish steam communication between this country and the Australian colonies; and, if not, what were the obstacles which prevented them doing so?—Mr. LABOUCHERE said the Government had taken steps in reference to this matter which, he trusted, would be satisfactory. The plan would be to put out tenders for a monthly communication, half the expense to be borne by the Government, and half by the colony.

TRADE WITH RUSSIAN PORTS.—Mr. EWART asked the First Lord of the Treasury whether it would be lawful to dispatch British ships with cargoes to Russian ports during the armistice which is about to be concluded; and, in that case, would articles contraband of war, such as brimstone, lead, and saltpetre, be exempt from such permissions of shipping? If the sailing of British ships be unlawful, might foreign ships be chartered for the purpose? Or whether the blockade of Russian ports would be soon re-established?—Lord PALMERSTON said he would strongly recommend any person who wished to engage in such undertakings as were referred to in the question to wait until an armistice was concluded, and then to ascertain what were its nature and conditions. (Laughter.)

INSURANCE COMPANIES.—In answer to a question by Mr. Scholefield, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said his attention had been called to the establishment of an insurance company in Paris whose operations were to extend to this country. If he found it necessary to protect the revenue, he should introduce a measure for that purpose.

OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON.—Sir P. KELLY moved for leave to bring in a Bill to Consolidate the Statute Law relating to Offences against the Person. He believed that by a judicious arrangement the statute-book might be reduced to one-seventh or one-eighth of its present dimensions.—Lord STANLEY seconded the motion.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL thought that a system of codification was better than consolidation. The plan of the hon. and learned gentleman had no originality in it, inasmuch as it was embodied in the recommendations of the Statute Law Commission, from which he and the Solicitor-General, when members of it, dissented. Being, however, in a minority, he would offer no objections to the hon. and learned gentleman carrying out his views.—After some discussion, leave was given to Sir P. Kelly to introduce two bills.

STATE OF THE IRISH BENCH.

Sir J. SHELLEY called attention to the Irish Bench at the present time, and moved for certain returns in connection with the subject with the view of showing that several of the Irish Judges were incapacitated by age and infirmity for the proper performance of their judicial duties.

Mr. T. KENNEDY moved an amendment so as to include England in the motion.

Mr. NAPIER censured the motion, and proceeded at some length to vindicate the character and ability of the Irish Judges.

Sir G. GREY said he had caused inquiry on the subject to be made of the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, who reported that he could not vindicate the retention on the bench of a Judge who was totally blind; and that he had caused an intimation to be made to Baron Pennefather that, in the event of such a motion as the present coming before the House, the Government could not justify his continuance on the bench. Although the motion under consideration was not properly drawn up, he (Sir G. Grey) would give it his support.

Mr. DISRAELI condemned the conduct of the Government, and denied that any case had been made out for the removal of Baron Pennefather, against whom neither public complaint nor anonymous calumny had been ever expressed.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL took the same view of the question as that of Sir G. Grey.

After much discussion of a very exciting and personal character, the House divided upon Mr. T. Kennedy's amendment. For the amendment, 120; against it, 134: majority against the amendment, 14.

The House then divided upon the original motion. For Sir J. Shelley's motion, 132; against it, 121: majority in favour of the motion, 11.

TELEGRAPH TO AUSTRALIA.—The Mediterranean Electric Telegraph Company, which is at this moment occupied in laying down the necessary wires to unite the Island of Sardinia with La Calle, on the coast of Africa, intends to establish a complete telegraphic communication between Europe and Melbourne, in Southern Australia. After opening secondary lines between La Calle, Bona, Bugia, Algiers, and Oran, the company proposes to run the principal line by Tunis, Tripoli, Alexandria, Cairo, Suéz, Jerusalem, Damascus, Bagdad, Bussorah, along the northern coast of the Sea of Oman, Hyderabad, and Bombay, where the line is to separate into two branches. The northern branch will proceed directly to Agra, whence a wire will be directed towards Lahore and Peshawar, and thus reach within a short distance of Cabul and Cashmere. From Agra the telegraphic line will pass through Benares and unite at Calcutta with the southern branch, which, starting from Bombay, will pass through Bangalore and Madras. From Calcutta the line will follow the north-east coast of the Gulf of Bengal, the peninsula of Malacca, the Sunda Islands, and thence cross over to the north of Australia, and, extending along the eastern coast of that continent, communicate with its numerous settlements, until it ultimately reaches Port Adelaide. The entire length of the line is estimated at 20,000 kilometres.—*Genoa Corriere Mercantile.*

All the civil inhabitants of Sebastopol who took part in the defence, women included, are to receive the commemorative medal instituted by ukase of November 27th, 1855.

The Session of the Diet of Denmark Proper will terminate on the 20th of this month. That of the General Diet of the Danish Monarchy will open on the 1st of March.

A new Ocean Steam Navigation Company—the France-American—are about to commence operations in France, whose principal terminus will be Havre, whence lines will radiate to different portions of North and South America.

The Sardinian Senate has voted the loan of thirty millions by a majority of fifty to seven.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Of the principle involved in the grand debate which occupied the Peers of England from five in the afternoon of the 7th till three in the morning of the 8th we have spoken elsewhere. Some of the incidents of that discussion, and of what followed, are not unworthy of note. In the first place, the Ministry, by having raised the question of life peerages, has lost whatever value the name and talents of the Duke of Wellington brought to the aid of Government. His Grace has resigned the Mastership of the Horse—is no longer her Majesty's *Grand Ecuyer*. Some people may think that the noble Duke himself offers—it is no reproach to him if he does so—one of the strongest illustrations of the advantage of not allowing a great man's name to devolve upon a small man. Next, we may note that the helpless condition of the Government, during the debate, was rather pitiable. It is understood that Lord Cranworth, the Chancellor, has specially taken up the life-peerage question, as a matter on which he feels earnestly; and it is said that his Lordship did not even consult the Attorney and Solicitor General before sealing the Wensleydale patent, from his conviction that his own view needed no confirmation. But he could not "hold his own" against the array of Law Lords opposed to him, and, though Lord Granville did his best, it was not to be expected that his best on such a subject could be very good. The Government was not only beaten in division, but in debate. On Tuesday the Committee of Privileges sat, and there was produced before it the almost illegible and discoloured patent of creation of two Peers, made for life only, in the time of Richard II. Some of the old law Latin was read out to the Lords, and must have been marvellously edifying. We may remark also that the Chief Justice has profited by the lessons in the vulgar tongue given him by Mr. Hawkins, the barrister. Lord Campbell's dignified way of apprising the Lord Chancellor that he should feel it his duty to oppose the admission of Lord Wensleydale into the House was, it seems, "Well, then, I shall be obliged to make a row about it as soon as Parliament meets." The new Peer has, unluckily, got the gout; but, as soon as he recovers, which will probably be about the time that it is deemed desirable to take another step in the matter, Lord Wensleydale will claim his seat, and what the Commons do with the Jew the Lords will do with the Judge. The *Morning Post* has discovered another of the celebrated mare's nests with which it bewilders the do-wager world. One of its writers "believes" that Lord Bexley's peerage was a creation for life. The innocence of a *gobemouche*, who imagines that all the great lawyers in the Lords would have overlooked what would have been a case in point, occurring but a few years ago, is only equalled by his ingenious reason for his belief—"because Lord Bexley had a nephew living at the time of his creation." The organ of the aristocracy should understand the rules of descent better—the ignorance this "reason" implies is truly remarkable.

The American House of Representatives has still no Speaker. In the Senate, Messrs. Cass, Clayton, and Collamer have delivered speeches condemnatory of the policy of England, in regard to Central America; but the first disbeliever that his country was getting into "difficulties," and the last considered that the time for legislative action had not arrived, as the President had held out hope of an amicable adjustment of the controversy. The Representatives, though not organised, according to the Constitution, are doing business, and, by a majority of one, have carried a resolution to the effect that the Slavery question ought not to be mooted, some subjects being too delicate for handling. As a comment upon this piece of prudence, and as a proof that the subject is not shirked out of doors, we may add a paragraph which arrives by the same mail:—"A shocking affair had occurred in Kentucky. A number of fugitive slaves having taken refuge in a house, the police officers proceeded to arrest them. The slaves fired and wounded several of the spectators. One slave woman, finding escape impossible, cut the throats of her children—killing one instantly, and severely wounding two others. Six of the fugitives were apprehended, but eight of another party are said to have escaped. The freezing of the Ohio river offered great facilities for fugitive slaves." Still, this system must not be talked about.

The First Lord of the Admiralty (Sir Charles Wood) brought forward the Navy Estimates on Monday. His first demand was for £204,982—being the amount of the excess of expenditure beyond the Estimate voted last year. This was granted, after a very discursive discussion; and then 76,000 men were voted, with sums on account of £2,000,000 for their wages, £1,000,000 for their food, £6,000,000 for the transport service—and, in short, everything else that was asked. The House of Commons thoroughly sets up to its undertaking to support the Queen in carrying on the war vigorously; and to its expression of approbation of the Royal announcement, that none of the preparations for the next campaign should be relaxed; and should the negotiations fail and hostilities recommence, it will be impossible to over-estimate the responsibilities of those who have the charge of our armaments, and have all they ask thus generously accorded. Should they be found to have speculated, in official fashion, on the chances of peace, and to have neglected any preparation, the just vengeance of the nation will be aroused in a way of which red-tapists have but a faint idea.

Mr. Walpole has succeeded, as there was little doubt would be the case, in his contest for Cambridge, and now represents the University. His numbers doubled those of Mr. Denman. The latter retired, on Saturday last, in a very graceful manner, not choosing to inconvenience the constituency by protracting the contest. Each candidate voted for his antagonist, a piece of knightly etiquette, not unbecomingly a battle waged among the old halls and colleges, but which would be rather provocative of sarcasm in a coarser scene of action. Mr. Black has been returned for Edinburgh, and comes into the House as the advocate of a rational and courageous policy; and Mr. Samuel Warren has taken his seat, as Lord Egmont's nominee. Mr. Cobden, according to Mr. Warren, made him a characteristic reply during his canvass:—"You know how we differ, but I shall be glad to see you in the House." Had Mr. Warren been a Russian, Mr. Cobden could not have been more accommodating.

Sir Thomas Mayon Wilson—

Oh! words of fear

Unpleasant to a Cockney's ear—

is stated by Lord Colchester not to have the slightest intention of trying once more to get hold of Hampstead-heath; and therefore the "Leases of Settled Estate Bills" may be passed without suspicion. The Londoners are very much obliged to Lord Colchester for his kind information; but, inasmuch as Sir Thomas's pertinacious endeavours, year after year, have imbued people with a conviction that he is, on the contrary, always trying to get power to build on the Heath, they will be still more obliged if the House of Commons will, as before, take care of their interests. The press watches very vigilantly all the attempts that are made upon poor Hampstead; but the journals having now sounded the alarm, Parliament must do the rest. The new bill is very innocent, no doubt; but it is a curious fact that it was introduced last year; and that, as soon as the House of Commons inserted a clause which effectually saved Hampstead, from the bricklayers, the promoters of the bill ceased to follow it up, and "it did not become law." The precedent is a good one.

The reporters in both Houses of Parliament have a real grievance to complain of. The galleries set apart for them are scarcely large enough even were the attendance confined to the staff engaged in preparing the reports and summaries for the London papers. In addition to these gentlemen, however, are others whose talents have been called into play by the advance of science—we mean those who transmit accounts (skillfully condensed to the smallest dimensions) by the electric telegraphs. This is a new and very interesting branch of reporting. The "points" in the

early part of a distinguished statesman's speech are read in Edinburgh before he has reached his peroration. There is a miniature army of red-collared couriers—boys of intense energy—perpetually scudding frantically between the Electric-offices and the Gallery. The reporters for the wire, of course, and very properly, occupy a part of the Gallery. But against another addition to its members the Gallery revolts. Some of the managers of country papers have taken it into their heads to have original reports, and their representatives also claim seats. As the *Times* points out, there are 650 of these journals, and, if one has a right to come in, all have. Already the crowdings is most disagreeable and inconvenient—the gentlemen leaving their seats fighting their way out, and their successors having to battle their way in. No one but a practical Gallery man comprehends the hardship of all this, and the injury it inflicts. The daily reporting for the London press is admirable; but its accuracy depends, in a great degree, upon several circumstances of which an "outsider" knows nothing. The reporter must be able to drop into his seat at the prescribed second; but not only this, he ought to have had another seat for some minutes previously, in order that he may fully comprehend what is going on in the House. He must be enabled to confer with colleagues in case of doubt, and to collate his notes with theirs; and his duty is quite arduous enough without its being rendered more difficult by confusion, crowding, and talking in his neighbourhood. The authorities of the House ought, assuredly, to exclude all but the London press and the electric reporters, who supply the country so admirably.

THE CZAR AND THE FRENCH EMPEROR.—The following narrative is about to go the rounds of the press, showing how the Emperor Alexander tried hard to lure away the Emperor Louis Napoleon from the English alliance, and how the Emperor Louis Napoleon remained true and firm to his engagements. Friendly courtesies, but of a strictly private nature, had been kept up since the commencement of the war between members of the Imperial family of Russia and the Princess Mathilde, the cousin of the Emperor of the French, a natural result of her union with Prince Demidoff; in September last a political turn was given to this channel, and one of the smaller German States undertook to bring about a separate peace between France and Russia. Russia communicated to France the concessions she was willing to make (and which subsequently were published in the circular despatch of the 22nd December), and in addition offered to France special advantages for herself. These temptations, however, the Emperor resisted, although the alliance offered by Russia opened the widest field to French ambition and love of conquest; considerable territorial acquisitions were to be the price and the result of this union of the two greatest and most aggressive military powers; but it involved a breach of the Emperor's engagement with England, which would have thrown him into the same path and career as his uncle had unfortunately trodden. The Emperor, on refusing these overtures, communicated them to London and Vienna. The result in this latter capital was, that Austria became suddenly alive to the danger to which she had been exposed, and quickly resolved upon putting herself on an unequivocal footing towards all parties; the proposals she drew up for the conclusion of a peace, after being revised and somewhat sharpened in London and Paris, were forwarded to St. Petersburg, and accepted there. While these negotiations were going on Russia got wind of them, and endeavoured to anticipate them by authorising Prince Gortschakoff to communicate in Vienna the concession that had been already mentioned to France, and which formed the contents of the despatch of the 22nd of December. The Prince accordingly called upon Count Buol, and addressing him with, "Well, my dear Count, I bring you peace," opened his budget of communication, but met with the objection that Russia's offer came too late; Austria had already drawn up her own propositions, and submitted them to France and England. All the rest is known.—*Letter from Berlin.*

THE ROYAL STAGHOUNDS.

The Royal Staghounds, as we have before mentioned, are well-bred foxhounds. To dilate on these favourites of the Royal pack, and their merits in so routine an amusement as Stag-hunting, would be a waste of time; Mr. Harrison Weir's portraits must speak for themselves. The old fashioned staghound (well depicted in "Bewick's Quadrupeds," and some of Landseer's pictures) is all but, if not quite, extinct. It was a slow, deep-mouthed, keen-scented hound, of great power, admirably adapted for finding and hunting down a wild deer, by force of perseverance, with power enough to pull down a stag of ten. Even on the Continent the old breed of staghounds have been so crossed with the English foxhound that but little trace of the original type remains.

Although we cannot admit that stag-hunting is anything better than a makeshift for something infinitely superior, which may be excused in men who have not time for the long, uncertain days of fox-hunting in a good country; yet we must admit that a good run, with such deer as the "Woodman," and the famous hind, "Farmer's Glory," will test the best horsemanship; and we do not know how a day can be more pleasantly spent than in a journey to the Ascot Kennels, and the Swinley Deer paddocks. The best way from town is by the South-Western Railway, which affords so fine a view of Windsor Castle as it curves round the Park. A short walk over the bridge conveys the visitor to Eton; and there, at Wyke—the Tilbury or Tollit of the locality—a dog-cart may be had. While it is preparing it will be worth while to look through the stables, where there are always some very clever hack-hunters for the hire of the military quartered at Windsor and their friends.

The drive through the Great Park up the Long-walk is delightful—whether the leaves are on the trees, and the deer spread about half-buried in the fern; or whether, on a frosty day of winter, they are packing in herds under the lee side of the great leaden, bare-armed oaks.

You can turn, if you go armed with a proper order, to examine Prince Albert's New Farm Buildings, and a farm which has been very much improved since it passed from military to civil management.

About half an hour after leaving the boundaries of the Park at a gate, which is opened by a one-armed man with very much the air of an Irish soldier, you come upon Ascot-heath, a wild waste of heather and gorse, except where the course and training-grounds run. Half-way across the heath on the right a very unpretending cottage, standing in a little garden, with a field in front, is the residence of Mr. Charles Davis, the veteran of the chase, whose portrait we gave in December last: beyond, out of sight, but within earshot, of the cottage lie the kennels.

The Royal pack once suffered severely from kennel fever; but, after infinite pains, expense, and loss, this fatal disease has been subdued.

CAPTAIN DISNEY'S WAR SHELL.

We have already illustrated this new war projectile, when the shells tested were small glass globes thrown by hand; and though, as Capt. Disney explained, these could be employed with most destructive effect as hand-grenades, they were, of course, but mere toys compared with the missiles to be projected from a mortar or an eight-inch gun. Captain Disney has since attended, by appointment with the Select Ordnance Committee, to submit his invention to a practical test of its efficacy in Woolwich Marshes. The new projectile, it will be recollected, differs from the ordinary shell solely in having its interior filled with a liquid which has the property of violently inflaming on contact with the air, accompanied by the slightest friction; in other respects—its internal form, its bursting-charge, and its fuze—it is precisely similar to those in common use. Those fired in Woolwich Marshes were the ordinary Shrapnel shells, and, with their bursting-charges and fuzes, were supplied by the Woolwich authorities; the inventor had merely to fill them with the terrible liquid, which is his secret.

At the foot of the land slope of the "butt" a large wooden building, consisting of posts ten inches square, walled and roofed with three-inch plank, all of African oak, was placed as a target for Captain Disney's fiery messengers. Into this, at a range of 550 yards, eight rounds were fired from an eight-inch gun, with the usual service-charge. The first three shells failed—two giving way in the muzzle of the gun, and the third bursting within the first thirty yards of its flight. This disaster was attributed by the authorities present to the ordinary charge being too severe for shells filled with a light liquid, instead of the usual ponderous contents of the Shrapnel. As, however, the same accident frequently occurs with the common shell, we believe this explanation to be erroneous, and shall presently endeavour to furnish a better. The propelling charge having been reduced to four pounds, all the remaining shells went fairly to the butt without accident. Only two, however, really entered the shed against which they were aimed, and here the effects of their explosion were sufficiently visible. The massive timber was in places torn asunder, and the back wall was set on fire; and, at the close of the experiments, remained burning as fiercely as the damp state and sparsely combustible nature of the materials permitted.

This experiment is not, however, considered by practical men as conclusive with regard to the efficacy of Captain Disney's shells. The inventor asserts for his shells, when used in warfare, the possession of certain powers which, under the above circumstances of their trial, it was almost impossible they could exert. The building they were aimed at resembled nothing against which they would be employed in actual



PROSPEROUS.

WOODMAN.

ROYAL STAGHOUNDS.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

RIGOLETTE.

CHANTICLEER.

service. It was composed of the hardest and least inflammable of woods, and this saturated with moisture; it had the bare earth for its floor, and contained no light materials among which fire could be readily kindled. Now, such a condition would rarely, if ever, occur in a hostile employment of this invention. However difficult of penetration and rapid burning the sides of a ship may be, the quantity of easily-combustible matter contained between her decks—to say nothing of the bodies of her crew—would form a fatal mark for the liquid fire scattered by these missiles. Their destructive effect on ordinary buildings, such as the houses of a town, must be too obvious to be questioned. In another respect, also, the mode of trial can scarcely be considered satisfactory. Owing to various causes of delay, a long interval, often exceeding a quarter of an hour, elapsed between each discharge; so that one shell had time to exhaust itself on the obdurate character of its quarters before another could arrive to strengthen the impression. In warfare, of course, any range of buildings marked out for destruction would be visited by these agreeable projectiles at least once in every three or four minutes. An implement of this kind, if seriously tested at all, should certainly be so in the way most favourable for the development of its properties, or, at least, most resembling its practical mode of employment; and this, for the reasons we have given, was not the case on Monday.

The experiments were brought to a close by an exhibition of the glass hand-grenades, as shown by the inventor at Chelsea, and of which about a dozen were thrown with unfailing results.

We should add that the premature bursting of the first three shells has

not been properly accounted for. The shells were eighth-inch Shrapnells, furnished by the Arsenal; and it was assumed that, being merely filled with a liquid, they were thereby rendered less capable of withstanding the shock of the propelling charge than they would have been if loaded in the ordinary manner. To this it is objected, that loose fragments of metal have no more cohesion among themselves than have the particles of a fluid; and that, therefore, a number of leaden bullets inclosed in an iron globe, though they increase its weight, impart to it no greater power of resisting fracture from external violence than it would derive from being filled with water. The truth is, that the contents of the shell have nothing to do with the matter—the cause of any such failure as that we are speaking of must rather be looked for in the indifferent quality of the iron of which it is composed. We are strengthened in this conviction by the fact that, after the reduction of the charge, every shell went safely home; and several of the fragments presented a gritty appearance never shown in the fracture of good iron.

We have a highly-favourable opinion of the merit of Captain Disney's invention, and hope to see it again tried, under circumstances more in accordance with its peculiar uses.

THE NEW PULPIT IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

PULPIT accommodation—or, at any rate, pulpit comeliness—in Westminster, had for many years been but a sorry affair. The miserable wooden box

—a *bona-fide* offspring of the Perpendicular period, we believe—was the last of the old choir fittings to yield before the recent improvements in this portion of the building. At last the eyesore has been removed. It has given place to a worthier production, and now occupies a corner in Henry VII's Chapel, where, surrounded by works of coeval character, its influence will produce a less disturbing effect.

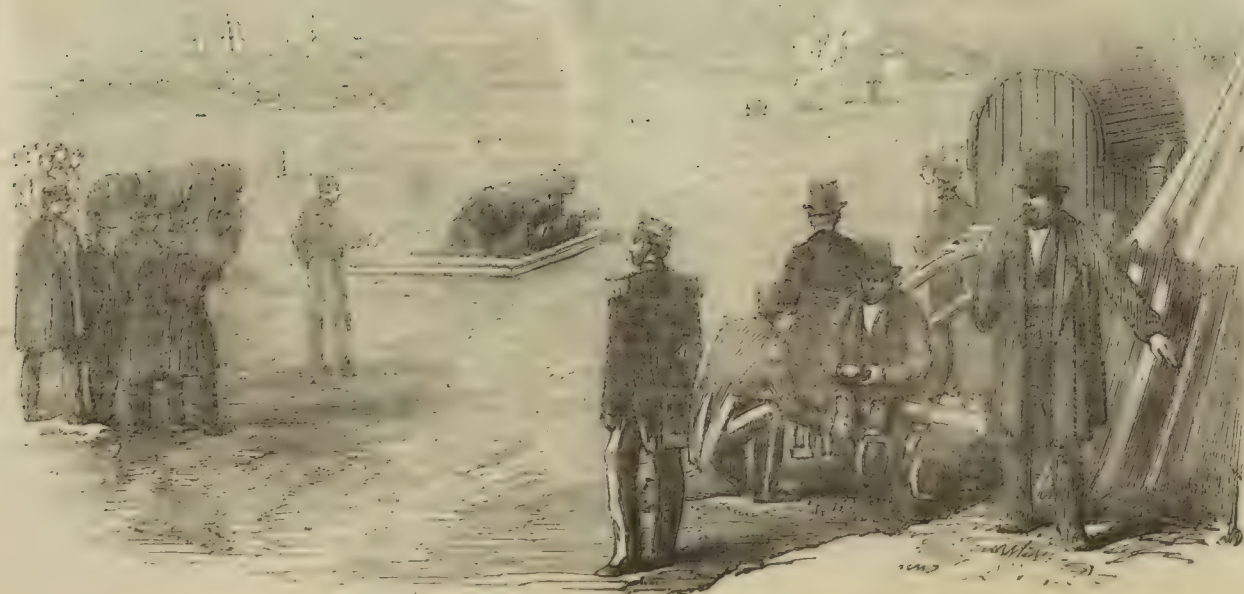


NEW PULPIT IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

The new Pulpit—of the choicest Purbeck marble, polished—has been wrought from the designs of the Chapter architect, George Gilbert Scott, Esq.

As will be seen by our Engraving, the subject has been designed with most felicitous vigour and mastery; its artistic breadth and general simplicity of plan harmonising completely with the spirit of the splendid old building in which it is placed. As a work of art it is at once dignified, cathedral-like, and effective.

To Mr. Samuel Cundy, of Pimlico, by whom the Pulpit was executed, our highest commendations are due.



EXPERIMENT WITH CAPTAIN DISNEY'S SHELL, AT WOOLWICH MARSHES.



VICTORIA DOCKS.—GENERAL VIEW.

THE VICTORIA (LONDON) DOCKS.

OF the commencement of this vast addition to the Dock accommodation of the metropolis we gave an Engraving in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Sept. 9, 1854. We now engrave a general view of the present state of the Docks, which were opened on the 26th of November last. From this day to Dec. 26 the gross registered tonnage of the vessels entered was 31,500. The cargoes were silks, sugars, seeds, corn, sulphur, timber, &c. For the dispatch shown by the Dock officials within the above month testimonials were received from several captains and owners of vessels.

The Victoria Docks are planned to occupy ninety acres of Plaistow Marsh, on the north bank of the Thames, and adjoining the North Woolwich Railway; by which they will have ready access to the heart of the City, and be placed in direct communication with all the great railways in the kingdom. The works (according to our former description) are a Tidal Basin on the western side, with an entrance from the river a little below Bow Creek, as well as a Canal on the eastern side of this Dock, with proper basin and gates, to form another entrance from the Thames at Galleen's Reach. It is intended to confine the undertaking, for the present, to the formation of the Western Dock and Tidal Basin, and to the purchase of the land which will be necessary for the formation of the Canal and other extensions at some future time. The land approach is about half a mile east of Bow Creek, on the Barking road, emerging from the latter by a new road on the side of the recently-built Victoria Tavern, and close along the line of the North Woolwich Railway, till it terminates by the north bank of the river.

The water area of the first Dock, opened on the 26th November for the reception of shipping, is very nearly 100 acres. The Entrance Lock is 325 feet long by 80 feet wide, with a depth of water on the outer sill of 28 feet at Trinity high water, and of 10 feet at Trinity low water. The depth of the Tidal Basin (16 acres) varies from 27 ft. 4 in. to 25 ft. 8 in., and that of the Inner Dock from 25 ft. 6 in. to 24 ft.

There are four substantial warehouses for the storing of goods, together with vaults for wines and spirits. Extensive warehouses and vaults will shortly be erected by the company, at the Steel-yard, in Upper Thames-street, for the housing of such goods as require to be inspected in the City.



NEW MARTELLO TOWER, AT THE FAIR-WAY OF THE THAMES AND MEDWAY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

The whole of the south side of the Dock, comprising nearly a mile of water frontage, will be devoted to the accommodation of the timber and other trades requiring space. All the cranes, capstans, lock-gates, and sluices, will be worked by hydraulic power.

The Tidal Basin will be accessible by night as well as by day for steamers and other vessels requiring dispatch. There will be ample provision for lifting the boilers and heavy machinery for these vessels.

Goods discharged by the company from vessels in the Docks are delivered, and goods intended for shipment in vessels in the Docks are received, at the Steel-yard.

Frequent railway trains run throughout the day between the Fenchurch-street station and the Docks; and, for the greater accommodation of parties doing business with the Docks, messages will be transmitted by electric telegraph from the Dock house, free of charge.

The published rates and charges on goods of the existing dock companies will be found, on comparison, to be in the majority of instances fully fifty per cent. in excess of those proposed to be levied by the Victoria Dock Company.

For the tonnage rates charged by the existing dock companies on shipping entering the docks, the Victoria Dock Company have substituted a moderate weekly rent, as a more equitable compensation for the occupation of their water area. It is hoped that, under this arrangement, it will frequently be found more advantageous to the shipowner to send his vessels into the Dock, than to leave them exposed to the risks of the river.

The rates for discharging cargoes will apply equally whether the goods are landed by the company or delivered overside, it being the policy of this company to leave the public to the unfettered exercise of their own discretion in the management of their business.

The width of the entrance gates of these Docks will render them available for the largest class of steamers engaged in the home and foreign trade of the port of London.

The application of screw steamers to the carrying on of the immense coal trade of London, will render of primary importance, dock accommodation for the immediate discharge of their cargoes; which object will be attained through the medium of the Victoria Docks. The company is empowered to provide pasture accommodation for the large numbers of Scotch and foreign cattle which are now brought for the supply of the metropolis.

These Docks will hand down to posterity, with honour, the names of Peto, Petts, and Brassey, as the contractors; and Bidder, as engineer. The works are, in every respect, worthy of this great age of engineering triumphs.

NEW MARTELLO TOWER.

THE tower off the Spit, Isle of Grain (engraved upon the preceding page), has just been completed by Messrs. Kirk and Parry, of Sleaford, Lincolnshire, and has been officially given up to the Ordnance authority at Sheerness. The tower has been nearly two years in erection, and was completed within the time specified by the Board of Ordnance. The peculiar construction of this tower gives it the facility of firing the guns (which are to be of the largest calibre) on traversing centre pivots, so as to do execution in the fairway of the rivers Thames and Medway. With the latter river this tower forms a crossfire with the Sheerness Battery guns sufficient to sink any ships attempting to pass. The tower is struck from seven different centres, in order to give stability to the available parts thereof. The average thickness of the solid masonry is 12 feet. The outer dimensions are 63 feet by 71 feet; underneath is a barrack-room capable of accommodating thirty gunners, and an officers' private room. The basement story contains the following rooms—viz., ordnance store, provision store, barrack store, regimental store, and magazine—the latter being encased with an entire coat of asphalt. The whole of this basement is lined with 9-inch brickwork, all being within a 12-foot wall of masonry.

The estimated cost of this tower is about £14,000, exclusive of its foundation of piles, which support solid barks of timber, with York landings, being filled in to a depth of six feet with cement. The extreme height of the tower is forty-one feet six inches. From its exposed situation, great difficulties were experienced during the winter months in proceeding with the work; but they have been skillfully surmounted by the builders.

MUSIC.

MADAME JENNY GOLDSCHMIDT-LIND'S THIRD MISCELLANEOUS CONCERT took place at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Monday evening. The audience was as crowded and as enthusiastic as on the previous occasions. The concert was full of interest; and the pieces sung by the fair prima donna were admirably calculated to display her unrivalled powers. She first sang the cavatina "Deh vieni non tardar;" *Susanna's* tender address to her lover, in the "Nozze di Figaro," which she delivered with a softness and sweetness wholly her own. She next gave the well-known and somewhat hackneyed "Casta Diva," from "Norma;" but she gave it freshness by the exquisite purity of her performance. These pieces she gave in the first part of the concert. In the second part she sang, in the first place, the aria "Non paventar," from the "Flauto Magico," one of the two famous bravuras introduced by Mozart into that opera for the purpose of enabling his wife's sister, Madame Lanze, to exhibit the singular extent of her vocal powers; with which view he crowded into them every imaginable difficulty which the human voice could possibly execute. We have heard several singers attempt these vocal feats, but never heard them accomplished before. Jenny Lind not only did so, but did it without effort, while she achieved the still more arduous task of preserving, in the midst of these executive difficulties, the dramatic expression and character of the song. Her next performance was another display not less marvellous, but less worthily bestowed. It was the trio for a soprano voice and two flutes, composed by Meyerbeer for his comparatively unsuccessful opera, "The Camp of Silesia," and afterwards transferred to the "Etoile du Nord," where it is sung by Catherine, while she is restored to reason at the end of the piece. Some critics have discovered its appropriateness to the situation; we confess that we have not, being unable to find in it anything but a string of vocal roulades and flourishes, of unheard-of difficulty doubtless, but as innocent of meaning as anything in a sol-fa exercise. The voice is reduced to the condition of an instrument, and in this respect placed on a level with the flutes; though certainly the voice eclipsed the other instruments (though in first-rate hands), both in power of tone and brilliancy of execution. But this was nothing but mere display; and the whole of it was not worth a single bar of Mendelssohn's simple and most lovely little song, "The Stars and the Maiden," with which Jenny Lind concluded her performances. M. Goldschmidt gained "golden opinions" by his masterly performance of Beethoven's Concerto in C minor, the great composer's *chef-d'œuvre*, we think, in this class of music. M. Goldschmidt also played Chopin's delicate and imaginative Nocturne in D flat, and an Allegro of Sebastian Bach; and in all these performances sustained his reputation as a pure and classical artist. Mr. Swift, who has returned to England after an absence of several years, spent chiefly at Lisbon, sang the Romanza, "Quando le scorse," from Verdi's "Luisa Miller," and Mendelssohn's song, "By Celia's Arbour." He has made great progress in his art; his fine tenor voice has gained strength, and his style finish and refinement. He is said to have distinguished himself, while abroad, on the opera stage; but the present state of dramatic music in England will afford, we fear, few opportunities to judge of his talents in this kind.

We learn that Madame Goldschmidt-Lind and M. Goldschmidt are to appear at the concerts of the PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY during the ensuing season. The society have it in contemplation to produce Schumann's celebrated Cantata, "Paradise and the Peri," founded on Thomas Moore's poem, in which, it is said, Jenny Lind will probably sing the principal part. Madame Schumann (Clara Wieck), a pianist of European fame, though she has never been in England, is to appear at the first Philharmonic Concert, on the 14th of April next.

THE THEATRES, &c.

ADELPHI.—"That Blessed Baby" is the title of a most amusing farce produced at this theatre on Tuesday. It is from a new candidate for dramatic honour, and has all the freshness of original and untried talent. Mr. Moore has shown himself especially a competent master of dialogue—for it is in this, not in the story, that the merit of his little drama particularly lies. The situations arising from a clandestine marriage of two servants in a bachelor's house were never better or more humorously produced; and these, aided by the peculiar talent of Mr. and Mrs. Keeley, proved irresistibly effective. There is also a scheming aunt, by Mrs. Murray, who finds in a veal-pie divers evidences of the presence of a baby in the family, such as a shoe and a coral necklace; while aniseed substitutes hochheimer, and farinaceous food the sauce on the hospitable board. Great, too, is the alarm of Miss Fisher at these signs of Mr. Fintle's supposed guilt; but an explanation soon becomes necessary from the absence of *Mary Jane* (Mrs. Keeley) and the alarm of John Thomas (Mr. Keeley) at her sudden flight. The police find the female culprit dragging her baby in its cradle along the street, and this discovery compels confession. It is seldom that out of such slight materials such abundant stage business is evolved; but the amount of fun in the situations bears after all but a small proportion to that in the dialogue. The reflections of John Thomas on the consequences of losing his situation, his description of a street wanderer, and his conviction that to make a mendicant life profitable two more "blessed babies" are at least required, were rich in conception and most ludicrous in effect.

OLYMPIC.—A new drama, founded on "Un Mari qui se Dérange," and entitled "Stay at Home," was produced on Monday. The old story has been cleverly adapted to modern manners; and, in the acting, is worked up to much effect by Mr. Emery, Mrs. Stirling, and Miss Fernan. The scene is Cremona. It will be recollected, that at the Haymarket, some time ago, "Ranelagh" was the title and title of a similar adaptation. The acting of Mrs. Stirling as *Mrs. Metcalfe*, overborne by the excess of her husband's fondness, and preferring even some little motive for jealousy, by way of relief, yet ultimately proving that "little" a little too much for her nervous system, was gaily and admirably marked by that variety and power of minute delineation which distinguish this lady's style. The situations at Cremona are so similar to those in the Haymarket drama at Ranelagh that we may be spared the repetition; but the final *imbrogllo*, nevertheless, from the different styles of the performers, and the altered stage arrangements, possesses sufficient novelty to be interesting. At any rate, the *dénouement* excited considerable laughter, and that subdued sort of interest which it appears best suits a polite and fashionable audience, such as in general patronises the management of Mr. Wigan.

SADLER'S WELLS.—The management of this theatre has re-produced "King John," with those accessories which first rendered it popular on this stage. The part of *Constance* is performed by Miss Atkinson—a lady who possesses much physical force and some poetic feeling, though needing as yet the discipline of a refined taste. Her performance of the character was, however, very creditable, and received well-deserved applause in its more vehement passages—in the pathetic she was less successful. The tragedy was exceedingly well mounted; and Mr. Phelps, as the English Monarch, acted with his usual discrimination. HAYMARKET.—A débutant appeared on Tuesday in the part of the *Stranger*. The gentleman's name is Simpson. His acting was

more than respectable, yet deficient in elocutionary force; and we are afraid that he has deferred his London appearance too long for complete success. Youth is a great element in popularity. Mr. Simpson seems to be well acquainted with stage-business, and there can be no doubt that he performs with judgment. Miss Reynolds was the *Mrs. Haller*, which, we believe, she attempted for the first time. In grace and sweetness her portrait was not deficient, but it was in power.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE HIGHFIELD HOUSE OBSERVATORY, NEAR NOTTINGHAM, FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 12, 1856.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M. 181 feet above sea level.	Thermometer.		Mean Temperature of the Day.	Rain in Inches. Read at 10 P.M.	Mean Temperature of the Day.		Amount of Snow (0-10).	Mean Amount of Cloud (0-10).
		Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.			Wet Bulb.	Evaporation.		
Feb. 6	29.610	52.5	43.0	49.2	0.162	48.9	47.0	10	1
" 7	29.426	54.7	44.8	49.0	0.160	45.9	46.3	2	6
" 8	29.768	53.8	42.2	48.9	0.106	48.1	46.7	7½	9
" 9	29.763	56.7	43.0	50.2	0.000	48.4	47.7	8	6
" 10	29.828	51.9	39.2	45.9	0.018	45.6	44.8	7	6
" 11	29.716	47.2	41.0	44.3	0.262	44.4	43.8	3½	9
" 12	29.478	54.3	42.6	49.0	0.412	48.3	47.4	7	8
Mean	29.654	53.0	42.2	48.1	0.990	47.4	46.2	6.4	4.9

The range of temperature during the week was 17.5°. The weather cloudy, with much rain, except on the 9th, which was very fine.

The direction of the wind was—6th, S.S.W. till 4½ p.m., when S.W., from S.p.m. oscillated from S.W. to W.S.W. (a heavy gale), on 7th, at 1 a.m., became W.S.W., 5 a.m. W., 7½ a.m. W.S.W., 9½ a.m. S.W., 4½ p.m. W.S.W. 7½ p.m. W., 9½ p.m. S.W., changing at 10 p.m. on 8th to W.S.W., 3½ a.m. to S.W., 7½ a.m. S.S.W., 8½ a.m. S., 9 a.m. S.S.W., 9½ a.m. S.W., 10½ p.m. S.S.W., on 9th, at 11½ a.m. became S.W., and at 9 p.m. W.S.W.; on the 10th became W. by S. at 3 a.m., at 3½ p.m. S.W., suddenly veered through S. to S.E. by E., became S. at 4½ p.m. p.m., and S.W. at 5½ p.m. p.m.; on the 11th became S.S.W. at 12½ p.m. a.m., S.W. at 1½ p.m. a.m. S. at 1½ p.m. a.m., S.W. at 2½ p.m. a.m., S.S.E. at 3 p.m. a.m., on the 12th, at 1½ p.m. a.m. became E. by S., 3 a.m. S.E., 4½ p.m. a.m. E.S.E., 6½ p.m. a.m. S.E., 7 a.m. S.S.E., 8½ p.m. a.m. S. noon S.W., 5 p.m. S.S.W., 5½ p.m. S.W., 7 a.m. W.S.W. The 6th was very boisterous, the gale being most violent from 6 p.m. till 7½ p.m., at 6½ p.m., the pressure was 11 lb. on the square foot. The 7th, 8th, and 9th were boisterous, 10th and 11th quite calm, and the 12th again boisterous. A mild week, with copious white mists in the valley on the evening of the 10th and 11th. On the 9th solar halo. E. J. LOWE.

THE SURPLUS FROM PATENT-OFFICE FEES.—An effort is about to be made by the patentees of the country to rescue the large and increasing surplus accruing from the fees paid by them, after deducting the expenses of the Patent Office, from absorption into the general revenue of the country. The gross amount of these fees is now £95,000 per annum, and they are estimated six years hence to reach £135,000. The expenses of the Patent Office, as at present conducted, make the clear surplus for this year £60,000, which, in 1859, will rise to £100,000.

DELAYS IN THE COURT OF CHANCERY.—The "law's delay" and its fearful consequences are strikingly exemplified in a petition just printed by order of the Commons. The petitioner, Mr. John Smith, of Bristol, complains that, having, in 1839, become plaintiff in a "Chancery suit," he has, with other unfortunate persons, been involved in litigation for nearly twenty years, "by reason of the present system of 'equity procedure,' together with tedious and expensive procrastination in the Masters' offices." As in the case of "Jarndyce v. Jarndyce," the original defendant is dead; but, as Chancery suits never (legally) die, the proceedings are still continued by "new trustees." The "ruinous law charges" already amount to between £4000 and £5000, and are likely to be increased. The petitioner earnestly prays the House for an inquiry into the present most abominable system of Chancery law, with a view to its amendment.

LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE IN PRUSSIA.—The *Elberfeld Gazette* publishes a letter from Nordhausen, which concerns a decision issued, on the 26th of November last, by an order of the temporal executive against Edward Balzer, a clergyman of a free congregation. By this decision, adverse to his claim, he is bound, although a minister of religion, to send his children to receive religious instruction in the public school of the place, or otherwise from duly-qualified private teachers. The reason of this is, that the religious instruction he himself may impart to his children is not recognised as able to replace the religious instruction which the authorities require in the name of the law.

A monster blast, which has required the labour of six men in its formation for the last ten months, and which required 6½ tons of powder to explode it, was let off last week in the quarry belonging to Holyhead works on Wednesday last. The quantity of stone loosened by the explosion will be no less than 60,000 tons.

Political excitement caused by the debates in the Chamber of the Holstein Duchies has assumed an alarming height. The Danish Government is expected to move considerable reinforcements of infantry and cavalry into those quarters.

It is stated that Russian journals will shortly be allowed to enter France as before the war.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

ALTHOUGH the amount of business transacted in the Consol-market, this week, has been by no means extensive, we have had a steady rise in the quotations. Speculative dealers are evidently impressed with the opinion that peace will result from the Congress now assembling in Paris; and it is intimated in several quarters—notwithstanding that war votes have been taken for the Navy in the House of Commons—that another English loan will not be absolutely necessary. It is just possible that a further loan will not be required, still we cannot get rid of the fact that very large expenses have yet to be met, and that several months must elapse ere we shall have any material decrease in them.

A great scarcity of money is still felt in commercial and banking circles, and the applications for accommodation have been as numerous as ever; consequently the rates of discount have continued to rule high. The best bills, short dated, have been taken in Lombard-street at 5½; and ninety days' paper, at 6½. Most of the bankers have become borrowers, and are freely given 5 per cent for money on "call." In spite of the pressure for money, we have numerous joint-stock banks forming; and we have had a discount-house formed with a million of capital. Many of them will, no doubt, be eminently successful, and afford great relief to the mercantile body; but it occurs to us that some of them have been started prematurely, and that some difficulty will be experienced, in the present state of the money-market, in obtaining the necessary amounts of capital. Some of the shares—which at one time bore a good premium—are already at a discount. The London and Paris Bank, and the Banks of Egypt and Constantinople, however, are regarded with considerable favour.

The imports of bullion, this week, have been about £160,000, including remittances from New York, the Brazils, and all other quarters. There is still some inquiry for gold on Continental account, but the shipments have been trifling, if we except about £70,000 to the Brazils. From a return just issued it appears that during the latter part of 1855 the Bank of France purchased gold and silver amounting to £14,000,000 sterling, at a loss of £120,000.

There was a moderate business doing in English Securities on Monday. The Reduced Three per Cents were 91½ to 91½; Consols for Money, 91½ to 91½; Ditto, for the Account, 91½ to 91½; and the New Three per Cents, 92½ to 92½; India Stock, 226; Long Annuities, 1860, 3½; Exchequer Bills, 3s. to 7s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 1858, 98 to 97½; Ditto, 1859, 98. On Tuesday prices further improved, with a steady feeling in the market. The Three per Cents Reduced were 91½ to 92½; Consols, 91½ to 91½; Ditto, for the Account, 91½ to 92½; New Three per Cents, 92½ to 92½; Long Annuities, 1860, 3½; Ditto, 1855, 18½; Bank Stock 214; India Stock, 224½ to 226; India Bonds, 3s. 7s.; Exchequer Bills, 3s. 7s. discount; Exchequer Bonds, 97½ to 98. Higher prices were realised on the following day, with an improved demand of money stock. The Three per Cents Reduced, 92½; Consols, for Money, 91½ to 92½; Ditto, for Account, 92½ to 92½; New Three per Cents, 92½ to 93½; Exchequer Bills, 2s. to 7s. discount; Exchequer Bonds, 97½. On Thursday very little animation was observed in Consols. The Three per Cents were 91½ to 92½, closing at 91½ to 92½; the Account prices were 92½ to 93½. The New Three per Cents realised 91½ to 93½; and the Reduced, 92½ to 93½; Exchequer Bills, 7s. to 3s.; and India Bonds, 3s. discount. The Bank of England Parliour meeting separated without any change being announced in the rate of discount. Last year the Bank purchased £8,310,358 in gold. The sales were £3,391,931.

The Foreign House has been tolerably firm. The following are the leading quotations:—Danish Three per Cents, 82½; Ditto, Five per Cents, 104; Granada, 1½; Deferred, 6½; Portuguese Four per Cents, 47½; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 93; Ditto, Five per Cents, 104½; Sardinian Five per Cents, 90; Spanish Three per Cents, 42½; Turkish Six per Cents, 93½; Ditto, Four per Cents (guaranteed), 100½ ex div.; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 64; Ditto, Four per Cents, 95½; Buenos Ayres Six per Cents, 55½; Mexican Three per Cents, 20½; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 80½; French, Three per Cents (second loan of 1855), 7½ prem.

The business doing in Joint-Stock Bank Shares has been tolerably extensive, although we have numerous new projects on foot, many of them likely to be eminently successful and highly useful to the commercial interest. Australasia have realised 92½; Bank of London, 60½; City, 70½; London Chartered of Australia, 17; London and Westminster, 47½ ex div.; Oriental, 40; Union of London, 28.

Miscellaneous Securities have been firm, as follows:—Australian Agricultural, 26½; Canada Six per Cents, 108½; Crystal Palace, 2½; Ditto

Preference, 5½ ex div.; East and West India Docks, 119½; English and Australian Copper-Smelting Company, 1½; General Steam Navigation Company, 27½; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 17½; London Omnibus Company, 3½; North British Australasian, 2½; North of Europe Steam, 15; Peel River Land and Mineral, 2½; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 63; Royal Mail Steam, 73½; Victoria Dock, 17½ ex div. Transactions in Ashton and Oldham Canal Shares have taken place at 145; Derby, 84; Grand Junction, 38 ex div.; Loughborough, 550; Regent's, 14½ ex div.; Stafford and Worcester, 420; Stourbridge, 290. Hungerford-bridge shares have realised 12; Waterloo, New £7, 26; Vauxhall, 20½. Insurance Companies Shares have been inactive:—Aldion, 83; County, 120; Globe, 104½ ex div.; Imperial Fire, 340; Rock Life, 8½; Royal Exchange, 223 ex div.; Sun Fire, 243 ex div.

Most Railway Shares have been steady, and the account has shown lighter rates of interest for carrying over than for some time past. The following are the official closing prices for money on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Caledonian, 55½; East Anglian, 12½; Eastern Counties, 10½; Great Northern, 91½; Ditto, A Stock, 75; Ditto, B Stock, 124; Great Western, 56½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 82½; London and Blackwall, 7; London and North-Western, 101½; London and South-Western, 95½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 25½; Midland, 70½; North-Eastern, Berwick, 76; Ditto, Leeds, 15½; Ditto, York, 52; South-Eastern, 54½. LINE LEASED AT A FIXED RENTAL.—Lowestoft, 111.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Great Northern, Five per Cents, 116; Great Western Five per Cents, 97; Ditto, Birmingham Stock, 72.

FOREIGN.—East Indian Extension, 15½; Ditto, Five per Cents, 5½; Great Central of France, 19½; Great Western of Canada Shares, 28½; Ditto, New, 9½; Northern of France, 37½; Royal Swedish, 2½; Ditto, Obligations, 2½.

Mining Shares have been rather dull. On Thursday, United Mexicans were 3½; Cobre Copper, 67½.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE, Feb. 11.—The supply of English wheat in to-day's market was but moderate, and in poor condition. There was a slight improvement in the demand, and the whole of the samples charged hands at last Monday's quotations. Foreign wheat was steady, but not dearer. The demand for barley was heavy, at a decline in value of 1s. to 2s. per quarter. We experienced a heavy sale for malt, at drooping currencies. Oats changed hands slowly, at 1s. per quarter less money. Both beans and peas were dull in the extreme, and the currencies gave way 1s. to 2s. per quarter. There was a moderate sale for flour, on former terms.

Feb. 13.—The trade generally was inactive to-day, at full prices. English—Wheat, Essex and Kent red, 58s. to 72s.; ditto, white, 60s. to 75s. Norfolk and Suffolk red, 58s. to 71s.; rye, 4s. to 5s.; grinding, 2s. to 2s. 2½; distilling, 30s. to 33s.; malting, 20s. to 24s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 68s. to 74s.; brown ditto, 68s. to 69s.; Kingston and Ware, 70s. to 74s.; Chevalier, 75s. to 78s.; rye, 4s. to 5s.; and Lincolnshire feed oats, 25s. to 27s.; potato, 21s. to 22s.; rough and cork, 12s. to 13s.; ditto, white, 20s. to 21s.; tick beans, 32s. to 36s.; grey peas, 34s. to 35s.; mangle, 31s. to 32s.; white, 48s. to 49s.; boilers, 11s. to 12s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 4s. to 4s. 2½; Suffolk, 4s. to 5s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 5s. to 5s. 2½; per 200 lbs. American flour, 3s. to 3s. 2½ per barrel.

Seeds.—Clover seed is in fair request, at full prices. Linseed and cakes are still drooping, with a heavy market. Lined, English, crushing, 70s. to 72s.; Mediterranean, 69s. to 72s.; hempseed, 56s. to 58s. per quarter. Coriander, 22s. to 26s. per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 20s. to 30s.; white ditto, 10s. to 13s.; tares, 7s. 6d. to 8s. per bushel. English rapeseed, 88s. to 90s. per quarter. Lined cakes, English, 41s. to 43s. 6d.; ditto, foreign, 41s. to 43s.; rape cakes, 46s. to 47s. 6d. per ton. Canary, 60s. to 62s. per quarter.

Bread.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 9½d. to 10½d.; of house-bread, 7½d. to 9d. per 4 lbs. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 73s. 8d.; barley, 37s. 5d.; oats, 24s. 6d.; rye, 51s. 4d.; beans, 43s. 4d.; peas, 42s. 2d.

The Six Weeks' Averages.—Wheat, 75s. 11d.; barley, 38s. 2d.; oats, 25s. 10d.; rye, 53s. 1d.; beans, 45s. 6d.; peas, 44s. 4d.

English Grain Sold Last Week.—Wheat, 58,688; barley, 96,436; oats, 18,004; rye, 127; beans, 5621; peas, 1786 quarters.

There is only a moderate business doing in our market, yet prices are well supported. Common sound comen is selling at 9½d. per lb. The show of samples is extensive, and the total stock is 56,515,000 lbs., against 51,507,000 lbs. in the corresponding period last year.

Sugar.—Although more business is doing in most kinds of raw sugar, prices have further receded to 1s. 6d. per cwt. Mauritius has sold at 33s. to 34s.; Madras, 32s. to 33s. per cwt. Refined goods are a slow sale, at 48s. to 49s. per cwt.

Coffee.—Privately, as well as in the market, only a moderate business has been passing in this market. Prices have ruled stationary.

Rice.—Our market has become firmer, and prices are well supported. The stock is 10,000 tons in excess of last season.

Provisions.—Fine butters are scarce, and held at very high rates. Inferior parcels move off slowly. We have to report a slow sale for bacon, at barely stationary prices. Lard is quoted in price, and other provisions are steady.

Tallow.—There is a slight improvement in the trade, and prices are well supported. 1½ cwt., on the spot, 58s. for the last three months, 52s. per cwt.

Oils.—Lined oil is heavy, at 33s. 6d. to 34s. 6d. per cwt. Other oils move off slowly, at 28s. to 30s. per cwt. Turpentine supports last week's currencies. Spirits, 33s. to 34s. 6d.; rough, 30s. to 32s. 6d. per cwt.

Spirits.—The demand for rum is heavy, at further depressed rates. Proof Leeward, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d.; East India, 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d. per gallon. Brandy is rather heavy, and lower to purchase, malt spirit, 10s. 2d. proof; Geneva, 2s. 10d. to 3s. 8d. per gallon.

Cheese.—Hutton, 15s. 6d.; Braddell's Hutton, 16s. 6d.; Russell's Hutton, 16s. 9d.; Tins, 18s.; Hewart's, 18s. 6d. per ton. Trade dull.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £3 10s. to £5 10s.; clover, ditto, £5 0s. to £6 10s.; art. straw, £1 5s. to £1 10s. per load.

Wool.—The demand for all kinds of wools continues steady, at full prices:—Mid and East Kent pockets, 70s. to 130s.; Wexford of Kent, 65s. to 110s.; Sussex, 60s. to 95s. per cwt.

Wool.—The public sales of colonial wool have commenced briskly, and prices have advanced 1½d. per lb. English wool is very firm, and rather dearer.

Butter.—The supplies continue large, and the trade is heavy, at from 40s. to 95s. per ton. Metropolitan Cattle Market.—Our market has been well supplied this week. Generally speaking, the trade has ruled heavy, at drooping prices:—

Beef, from 2s. 10d. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 2s. 10d. to 4s. 8d.; veal, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 8d.; pork, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d. per 8 lbs., to sink the offals.

Lard and Straws.—Meadow hay, £3 10s. to £5 10s.; clover, ditto, £5 0s. to £6 10s.; art. straw, £1 5s. to £1 10s. per load.

Wool.—The demand for all kinds of wools continues steady, at full prices:—Mid and East Kent pockets, 70s. to 130s.; Wexford of Kent, 65s. to 110s.; Sussex, 60s. to 95s. per cwt.

Wool.—The public sales of colonial wool have commenced briskly, and prices have advanced 1½d. per lb. English wool is very firm, and rather dearer.

Butter.—The supplies continue large, and the trade is heavy, at from 40s. to 95s. per ton. Metropolitan Cattle Market.—Our market has been well supplied this week. Generally speaking, the trade has ruled heavy, at drooping prices:—

Beef, from 2s. 10d. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 2s. 10d. to 4s. 8d.; veal, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 8d.; pork, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d. per 8 lbs., to sink the offals.

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NEW MUSIC, &c.

THE BEST FOOD FOR CHILDREN, INVALIDS, AND OTHERS.
ROBINSON'S PATENT BARLEY, for making superior **BARLEY-WATER** in fifteen minutes, has not only obtained the patronage of her Majesty and the Royal Family, but has become of general use to every class of the community; and is acknowledged to stand unrivalled as an eminently pure, nutritious, and light food for infants and invalids; much approved for making a delicious custard-pudding, and excellent for thickening broths and soups.

ROBINSON'S PATENT GROATS for more than thirty years have been held in constant and increasing public estimation as the purest and most nourishing of the oat, and as the best and most valuable preparation for making a pure and delicate **GROEL**, which forms a light and nutritious food for the sick, the aged, the infirm, and infants.

ROBINSON'S PATENT is of general use in the sick-room, and, alternately with the **Patent Barley**, is an excellent food for infants and children.

Prepared only by the Patentees, **ROBINSON, HELLVILLE, and Co., Purveyors to the Queen, 64, Red Lion-street, Holborn, London.** Sole and respectable Grocers, Druggists, and Others, in town and country, in Packets of 6d. and 1s.; and Family Cansisters, at 2s. 6d. and 3s. each.

Equivalent Reductions have been made in the Annual Premium Payable by those persons who preferred that form of Bonus. The future divisions of Profit will take place every Five Years. Any sum not exceeding £100,000 may be insured on the same Life. With a liberal participation in Profits, and other advantages. In modern practice, this Corporation affords to the Assured the guarantee of an Office safely constituted under the Royal Charter and special Acts of Parliament, and tested by the experience of nearly a Century and a half.

There is but one older Life Office in existence. Fire and Marine Assurances are granted on liberal terms. Tables of Premiums and other particulars may be obtained at the Chief Office of the Corporation, in Bond Street, London, or at the Branch Office, No. 29, Pall-Mall; or from the Agents appointed at the principal Towns in the United Kingdom.

JOHN H. HIGHAM, Actuary and Secretary.

DAYSWATER HOTEL.—THE QUEEN'S
FAMILY HOTEL, 71 and 72, Queen's-road, Dayswater, Kensington Gardens, is distinguished for bed-room purity and family comfort. Apartments, with full board, 8s. 6d. per day, or £12 6d. per week, which includes all charges; or Meals charged separately.

HEADS of SCHOOLS and PRIVATE
FAMILIES may obtain a Catalogue of Mons. F. de Forquet's Popular Works (sixty in number) for learning French, German, Italian, &c., on application to Mons. F. de Forquet, 118, Fenchurch-lane, Street; or Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., Stationers'-hall-court, London.

Be Jongh's sole accredited Consignee, and sent by them, carriage-free, to all parts of town.

May be obtained in the Country from many respectable Chemists. Should the least difficulty be experienced in procuring this Oil, Messrs. Assar, Harford, and Co. will forward four half-pint bottles of Half-Pints (10 ounces), 2s. 6d.; Pints (30 ounces), 4s. 9d.; Quarts (40 ounces), 9s. IMPERIAL MEASURE.

CAUTION.—The bottles are capaled and labelled with Dr. Jongh's stamp and signature, without which none are Genuine. The Public are specially cautioned against unprincipled attempts to induce them to purchase other kinds of Cold-Cream, and to be assured that they are the same as Dr. De Jongh's, or equally inferior.

DHULEEP SING.

THE life of every Eastern Prince is a romance; intrigue, murder, a throne, or a dungeon, are the usual phases of existence through which they pass.

Dhuleep Sing, now on a visit to this country, has not created the sensation, nor is he such a lion as Jung Bahadour, the Nepaulese Ambassador; yet Dhuleep Sing was a reigning Monarch.

On the 15th September, 1843, the Maharajah of Lahore, Shere Sing, and his two sons, were murdered; and, the murderer himself being slain almost immediately afterwards, Dhuleep Sing, then only ten years of age, was placed upon the throne. Executions and bloodshed followed in the Sikh capital.

The history of Sikh affairs, from the death of Runjeet Sing, in July, 1839, to the accession of Shere Sing, will serve as a background to our brief sketch of Dhuleep. When the old Lion of the Punjab died, his son, a weak-minded man, Kurruck Sing succeeded him, but he died shortly afterwards; one of his wives and four of her handmaids were immolated on his funeral pyre. Nao Nehal Sing, his son, was killed the same day by a beam falling on his head as he was entering the city gates, returning from his father's funeral.

Shere Sing, Governor of Cashmere was then proclaimed Sovereign. He was the illegitimate offspring of one of the wives of Runjeet Sing, but was always treated as a Prince of the blood. He was a man of great energy, but devoted to debauchery. He had scarcely assumed power, when one of the wives of Kurruck Sing was announced to be in an interesting condition. A civil war ensued, but Shere Sing triumphed.

On the 15th September, 1843, Dhyan Sing, the Prime Minister resolved to make himself King. The Sirdar Ajeet Sing was intrusted with the murder. At a review of the troops in the morning he drew a pistol from his bosom and shot Shere Sing through the right temple. The other conspirators rallied round him. A fierce fight ensued to the advantage of the conspirators. Ajeet Sing cut up the Rajah's body, placed his head on a spear, and, on entering the town, attacked and murdered Prince Pirtaub Sing.

All the wives of Pirtaub Sing were brought out and murdered; and a child, a son of Shere Sing, only born the night before, was strangled.

Ajeet Sing now thought of assuming the crown himself. He entered the carriage of his fellow-conspirator, Dhyan Sing, and whilst conversing with him stabbed him to the heart. On the 16th matters changed. All the conspirators were mastered and put to death. Ajeet among the rest; and Dhuleep Sing, the only surviving son of Runjeet Sing, was put on the throne.

Lahore, the Sikh capital, is within fifty miles of Ferozepore, the frontier English post.



DHULEEP SING.—FROM A COLLATION BY O. G. REILANDER, WIMBORNEHAMPTON.

The population of the kingdom of Lahore is between 3,000,000 and 4,000,000. Its standing army under Runjeet Sing amounted to 80,000 men, of which 25,000 were infantry; the regular cavalry and artillery mustered about 5000, with 150 guns; 50,000 irregular horse formed the remainder. The revenue is estimated at about £2,500,000.

That the Sikhs can fight we know from our experience in the last Sikh war. Civil war in a native kingdom is a sure sign that that kingdom will be shortly drawn irresistibly to that great magnetic power the East Indian Government. One by one the native Princes fall like flies into the wide-spread web of the great benevolent spider of Leadenhall-street. The last has been the King of Oude, who is allowed £100,000 a year pocket money.

Lahore and the Punjab were of course doomed. A treaty was signed at Lahore on the 26th December, 1846, by which our troops were to remain in the Punjab during the minority of Dhuleep Sing. In May, 1847, a deep-laid plot was discovered at Lahore for the destruction of the English. The Maharanee Chunda, the mother of young Dhuleep, was sent off under a strong escort to Benares.

India was on the eve of a great crisis. A deep-laid, wide-spread plot for the overthrow of the English power burst like a tornado. It commenced in 1848, at Mooltan, where Edwardes so distinguished himself. Then came the Sikh war, and the sanguinary battle of Chillianwallah, and the final defeat of the Sikhs, which terminated in the annexation of the Punjab, on the 17th of March, 1849.

On the 18th May, 1849, the Maharanee Chunda, the mother of Dhuleep, made her escape, and arrived at Nepal. Dhuleep himself came to an amicable arrangement with the Government, and is actually a guest of Great Britain, where his quiet, unassuming manners have earned for him the respect of all whom he has honoured with his acquaintance.

THE FALLS OF GARSUPPAH.

THIS scene of magnificent nature is in the Canara district, on the west coast of India, where the spectacle of these stupendous waterfalls from the Ghauts is a sight often enjoyed by tourists in search of the sublime. The scenery is delightful and grand, "displaying stupendous scarps, fearful chasms, numerous waterfalls, dense forests, and perennial verdure." Our View is from a sketch recently taken by a Correspondent. The Falls are from 800 to 900 feet in height. The several torrents have their respective names: commencing from the left hand, the first is called "the Raja;" the second, "the Roaree;" the third, "the Rocket;" and the fourth, "La Dame Blanche."

The height of 800 or 900 feet, more than double that of St. Paul's Cathedral, may appear tremendous; but Bishop Heber describes a waterfall near Candaulah which falls in three or four successive descents down a precipice of 1200 feet, into a valley of awful depth and gloom.



FALLS OF GARSUPPAH, CANARA DISTRICT, WEST COAST OF INDIA.—FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.



FAUSTIN, EMPEROR OF HAYTI, IN HIS CORONATION ROBES.



ADELINA, EMPRESS OF HAYTI, IN HER CORONATION ROBES.

HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY FAUSTIN, EMPEROR OF HAYTI.

THE political history of St. Domingo, or Hayti, where his coal-black and Imperial Majesty Emperor Faustin I. reigns, is a curious chapter in the world's history. Discovered in the fifteenth century, by Columbus, St. Domingo is one of the largest and most fertile of the West India Islands. It is situated between the islands of Jamaica and Cuba, and extends in length from east to west nearly 400 miles, and in breadth from 60 to 150 miles. About the middle of the sixteenth century, the island of St. Christophers was taken possession of by a mixed colony of French and English; but,

having excited the jealousy of the Spaniards, they were driven from it. They turned pirates or buccaneers, as they were called, and at last succeeded in making good a footing in St. Domingo itself. By the treaty of Ryswick that part of the island on which they had established themselves was ceded to the King of France, who acknowledged them as his subjects, and gave them his protection. In 1722 the colony was in a very prosperous condition, and continued so till 1789, when the great French Revolution broke out. The population of St. Domingo was divided into three classes—the whites, the people of colour, and the slaves. All the power and influence were concentrated in the whites, who disdained any intercourse with the people of colour. The black slaves ranked still lower,

experiencing great cruelty from the two other classes. When the French national Convention passed the memorable decree that all men were born equal, and entitled, therefore, to an equality of civil privileges, it became the signal for revolution in the island. Whilst the whites and people of colour were at war, the black population suddenly rose in a body and emulated the *Vepres Siciliennes* by putting to death all the whites who came in their way without distinction of age or sex. Lamartine's hero, Toussaint-Louverture, who assumed the command of the insurgents in 1794, was recognised by the French Directory. In May, 1801, Toussaint promulgated a constitution and declared the independence of the island. In



FIRST SALE OF SUGAR IN THE MARKET-SQUARE OF D'URBAN, PORT NATAL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

December of that year a French expedition, under General Leclerc, arrived with the intention of subduing the blacks. Toussaint was made prisoner. The French were, however, compelled to evacuate the island in 1803. Toussaint was taken a captive to France, where he died. A furious black, named Dessalines, now assumed the reins of the Government. His atrocities were such that he fell under the dagger of the assassin like many of the leaders of the Revolution in France. He assumed the title of Emperor, as Jacques I., on the 8th October, 1804. He was assassinated on the 17th October, 1806.

The island now split into two factions—a negro kingdom in the north, governed by a black, called Christophe, who styled himself King Henry I.; and a mulatto republic, with Pethion for president, in the south. Pethion died in 1818. On the death of Christophe (1820) the two parts were united into a free state, under the presidency of a mulatto of the name of Boyer, who was appointed Regent for life. On the 17th April, 1825, France recognised the independence of the Haytian Republic. Boyer had raised a faction against Christophe, who, seeing his case was hopeless, fell upon his sword, like Brutus after Philippi. The eastern portion of the island still remained under Spain. Boyer invaded it, and obtained possession of the entire island. He reigned till 1843. He was then overthrown, and driven from the island, by a revolution headed by Rivière, who succeeded him as President. After about four months the Spanish part of the island revolted; he marched with an army to reduce it to subjection; and, while on this expedition, the other parts of the island revolted against him, and he was compelled to escape to Jamaica. A succession of Presidents followed, of short duration; and, on the 1st of March, 1846, we find Soulouque, the present Emperor, elected President.

What now follows exceeds the production of any writer of fiction, even the celebrated Baron Munchausen. A true recital of the events at Hayti since 1846 to the present day, is the best burlesque upon an empire that the most fertile brain even of a Cervantes could have imagined.

Previously to his election as President Soulouque (the present Emperor Faustin) was unknown to fame. His rise was gradual through the army. His first military service consisted, in fact, in cleaning the boots of one of the illustrious black Generals. Being of an enterprising and energetic turn of mind, he relinquished the shoe-brush for the sword, and, being a man of undoubted courage, soon obtained the rank of Captain, subsequently that of General. As already stated, in 1846 he was elected President.

Soulouque's ambition was now aroused, and he resolved in his heart to emulate the achievements of Napoleon I. He studied that great man's career, and took him as a model. He resolved to have his 18th Brumaire! For three years he brooded over his plans, and finally carried them out in 1849.

In April of that year an alleged plot to assassinate the President was the excuse for arresting all those persons he thought likely to oppose his views. Of these he beheaded a great many, and numbers died.

On the 20th August a petition to request him to accept the Imperial crown was got up at Port-au-Prince, his capital. No one knew where it originated. However, deaths, flights, and banishments had been so numerous of late that no one knew what was to come next. Three hundred and four citizens signed the petition. One of the Generals, hearing of it, called upon the President to question him upon the subject. He feigned surprise, but said that he could not refuse accepting what the popular will conferred upon him. A second petition was now circulated, signed by forty-nine generals; a third followed, signed by all the Colonels. These petitions were presented to the Chambers on the 24th: it came upon them like a clap of thunder. After deliberating upon the matter the petitions were unanimously adopted. On the next morning it was referred to the Senate. Meantime a crown and Imperial insignia had been procured and placed on the table in the Senate house. Upon their assembling Soulouque entered, modestly accepted the dignity which he said was " thrust upon him," complacently allowed them to place the crown on his head, and he was saluted as Emperor! The cannons which he had placed at all the commanding points of the city now boomed forth, and the bells rang merry peals in his honour.

Let us now describe his Majesty:—The Emperor Soulouque is a thorough " coal black," but his nose and lips are more European than his colour might lead to expect. From the forehead to the top of his head he is completely bald. He is between fifty and sixty years of age; of large form, and very erect; is nearly six feet in height; well proportioned, though latterly inclined to corpulency. He is, like his brother Emperor of France, a most perfect horseman, and generally excites the admiration of strangers by the grace and ease with which he manages his grey charger. He rides out usually in a full uniform of a very rich description, the entire front of his coat and other parts of his dress being overlaid with heavy gold lace. He is usually surrounded by a well-mounted staff of Generals. He is regarded as a man of considerable cunning, but moderate abilities, and of undoubted bravery.

The first act of the new Emperor was to create a nobility. Under the most absurd titles, Dukes, Marquises, Counts, and Barons were created, dozens at a time. Bobo, an escaped galley-slave, was created Prince of the Empire. Now every one of these black Dukes and nobles aimed at superseding Soulouque. Moreover, they all acted as spies one upon another, so that his Imperial Majesty was kept well informed of what was going on around him. Prince Bobo, the ungrateful Bobo, was the most violent of all. Soulouque summoned him to his Court. Prince Bobo knew that if he disobeyed he would be condemned to death, and that if he complied he would be shot; so he took to his heels. Bobo was a popular man, and Soulouque feared a rebellion. As an example to others he ordered his Prime Minister to be beheaded; a price was set on the head of Bobo; and he himself marched at the head of an army into that part of the island where Bobo was popular. Finding no resistance, he attacked the small Spanish colony of which St. Domingo is the capital; but the foreign Consuls there compelled him by threats to suspend hostilities.

Soulouque, determined to follow in the steps of the great Napoleon, now resolved upon a solemn coronation. Having carefully studied all the details of the coronation of Napoleon I. and Marie Louise, he ordered at Paris an Imperial crown, the ring, globe, and sceptre, the sword, and the velvet robes covered with golden bees. All that he now wanted was a bishop. He charged his delegate, a certain M. Villaveleix, to offer terms to the Pope. A black missionary, of the name of Cessens, soon supplanted Villaveleix. He had really been ordained; but his antecedents were such that, instead of being admitted to a friendly audience, he received a reprimand from the Holy See. Nothing daunted, he proceeded to Port-au-Prince, where Soulouque gave him the title of Vicar General.

On the 4th April, 1851, new uniforms were distributed to the troops. On the following Sunday the ceremony of blessing and distributing the Imperial eagles took place. On the 17th April, at sunset, 101 guns announced the commencement of festivities—illuminations for seven days and nights in honour of the coronation.

On the auspicious morning of the 18th, as early as three a.m., the Imperial Guard and military deputations occupied the so-called Champ de Mars. A temporary church of wood had been erected, all the carpenters of the kingdom having been called into requisition for the purpose. The different Consuls, officers of the French steamer *Le Crocodile*, and all the notabilities of the place, assembled in this church; and at nine o'clock, amidst the roar of cannon and military music, Soulouque and his Empress Adeline left the Imperial palace.

First came the Chevalier Dufont, King-at-Arms, followed by twenty-four Heralds of Arms, marching six abreast, in crimson velvet and gold dresses. Then followed Dukes, Counts, and Barons in gay attire. Soulouque had created 59 Dukes, 100 Counts, 336 Barons, and 349 Knights. The Dukes and Princes were thus attired, or ought to have been, according to the Imperial ordinance in the *Gazette*:—A flowing white tunic reaching to the knee, a blue velvet mantle, with a rich gold border, fastened round the neck with golden tassels, lined with crimson silk, white silk stockings, red morocco Wellingtons, sword with gold hilt, a hat and plumes of the national colours, looped up in front. It is true, alas! that in the procession many of these noble Dukes showed their black skins to the admiring population, their funds not being equal to the expense.

After them came the Imperial Ministers, namely, their Graces the Duke of Tiburon (M. Dufresne), the Duke of St. Louis (Mr. Salomon), the Duke of Bande du Nord (M. Hippolyte), and the Count Petite Elvière de Dalmaria (M. Delya). The Emperor's brother, Prince de Port-de-Paix, came next, then came twelve platoons of troops, then six Imperial Aides-de-Camp, then the Imperial carriage, containing his Majesty the Emperor, his august spouse Adeline, and the young Princess Olive. This magnificent equipage was drawn by eight horses, and followed by eighteen pages in the Imperial livery. Carriages containing the nephews and nieces of their Majesties, each drawn by six horses, followed. Detachments of cavalry brought up the rear. Many of the Duchesses and Princesses (who on other days keep shops and donkey-carts) appeared in full Court dress, with little niggers holding up their trains. We shall not attempt to describe the ceremony. Imitating his great prototype, Faustin took with his own hands the crown from the altar, crowned himself, and then crowned his fair—we mean his black—Adeline.

"Long live the Emperor!" "Long live the Empress!" now resounded

on all sides, and this solemn farce was concluded. The black missionary, in a stentorian voice, gave the signal by shouting out, "Vivat Imperator in eternum!"

Our space is too limited for us to enter into a statistical statement of the revenue and expenditure of this extraordinary Emperor. The revenue of his empire is above £100,000, the expenditure has been about £200,000. Whenever his Majesty requires money, he taxes his subjects. If any one of his Ministers remonstrates, he chops his head off; indeed, latterly, as a precautionary measure of example, he has annually decapitated some person high in office. Popular loans are beneath his notice. The idea which now chiefly occupies his Imperial mind is to declare himself head of the Church, as well as of the State, and to disavow the Pope. In 1853 the Pope sent out an Apostolic Delegate, in the person of Monsignor Spaccapietro; but Faustin does not like him, and the delegate has withdrawn.

The little Spanish republic of St. Domingo still exists, under its President, Santana, and is an eyesore to the Emperor. The last reports from Hayti state that Faustin was preparing an army to invade it. The Republic is, however, recognised by France and England, and this may deter his Imperial Majesty from the expedition.

All the Powers of Europe, great and small, have Consuls or Consular Agents accredited to his black Majesty—who, if laughed at and ridiculed in Europe, is nevertheless a great man in his own island. He has no male issue; and his death will be the signal for a new revolution.

THE NEW SUGAR COLONY OF NATAL.

IN THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of the 6th January, last year, we published a sketch of West-street, the principal street in the town of D'Urban, the sea-port of the colony of Natal. In the notice then subjoined the general character and capabilities of the country were briefly alluded to. The more matured results of the enterprises in progress, and the increasing interest which a more extended knowledge of those results has awakened in behalf of Natal in this country, justify our devoting space to a statement of the most recent facts—prefacing them, however, with a hasty general notice.

The district of Natal, originally annexed to the British dominions in South Africa as a dependency of the Cape Colony, was in 1845 erected virtually into an independent colony, having a separate Government, under her Majesty's letters patent; whilst, for certain Imperial purposes, it was still, and continues to be, subordinate to the Governor of the Cape, who, during any temporary visit to the district, becomes *de facto* Governor of Natal. For all ordinary purposes of government, however, Natal is under the administration of its own Lieutenant-Governor, assisted by a Legislative and an Executive Council, composed exclusively of the heads of departments in the public service. A very strong and general desire has been expressed by the colonists to have the principle of representation introduced into the Government; and their views have been warmly supported by his Honour Mr. Pine, the present Lieutenant-Governor. The Secretary of State having declared himself favourable to such a concession, there is no doubt that, ere long, popular government will be extended to this portion of her Majesty's dominions.

Already Municipal Corporations are established in the city of Pietermaritzburg, the capital of the colony, and D'Urban, its sea-port, with provision for the creation of similar institutions in towns which shall possess a population of one thousand souls. The district is also divided into counties, and a system of local or county councils organised, whereby the principle of self-government is extended to the rural parts, with jurisdiction over the roads, bridges, and local administration of each county.

For the large native population of Natal, magistrates with suitable powers and appliances are appointed over assigned divisions of the country; and an improved system of native government is rapidly being introduced. It may be mentioned that the tax imposed on the huts or habitations of the Kafir population now amounts to about £10,000 annually, and is paid with the utmost willingness, and even alacrity. The native population of Natal consists chiefly of the fragments of tribes escaped from the tyranny of former rulers of neighbouring barbarian nations, and possesses none of those elements of cohesion and power which have created frequent and bloody wars on the frontier of the Cape colony; and as, in addition to an improved machinery of civil government, extensive measures are in progress, under the sanction of the British Government, for establishing a system of industrial schools throughout the district, it is confidently believed not only that the peace which has hitherto reigned in Natal will not be disturbed, but that the native population will be gradually elevated into the condition of settled industry and Christian civilisation.

Natal is peculiarly favoured with regard to the salubrity of its climate, and the variety of its natural capabilities. Whilst the middle and upper parts, as far as the Drakensberg—the range which divides it from the Orange Free State—are admirably adapted for the production of wheat and other European cereals, and for the breeding of cattle, sheep, and horses, the coast lands, extending along the sea-board for nearly two hundred miles, and in breadth inland about fifteen miles, are now proved beyond a doubt to be equally well adapted for the productions of tropical climates—such as sugar, coffee, indigo, cotton, arrowroot, turmeric, and ginger. The whole country is well watered by rivers (not, however, navigable), and by innumerable ever-flowing streams; and the peculiarity of the climate is that it is not liable to those long droughts which so injuriously affect the Cape colony and the interior regions. The climate of Natal is also beautifully tempered by the constant sea-breezes that sweep over it from the south-west and north-east alternately, being the direction of its coast line; and it is rarely, if ever, visited by the hot blasts from the interior of the African continent.

During the last two or three years European agriculture, including stock farming, has made highly-satisfactory progress in the upper divisions of the country. The Dutch farmers (the original settlers), feeling more confidence and security, have built substantial homesteads, and have largely extended cereal cultivation; whilst the increasing flocks and herds give evidence of a state of progressing prosperity. Numerous British settlers, many of them persons of education and substantial means, have settled amongst their Dutch fellow-colonists; and the condition of those parts is, in all respects, most hopeful.

But the more recent enterprises of tropical industry on the belt of coast land are those which chiefly attract public attention at the present time to the colony of Natal.

Not less than seven years ago, before the ill-digested emigration scheme of Mr. J. C. Byrne, poured a mass of unprepared and unsuitable British settlers upon the shores of Natal, several of the original emigrants had discovered, by experimental cultivation, that the sugar-cane and other tropical plants thrived well near the coast; indeed, a species of sweet cane grows indigenously, and the indigo-plant is a weed in the soil. The want of capital and the depressing effects of the emigration (from which Natal has but recently recovered), combined to prevent those experiments from being fully prosecuted. Mr. E. Morewood, however, on his estate—about thirty miles from D'Urban (Port Natal), succeeded, by means of rude and simple machinery, in producing sugar of good quality from cane grown by him; and the want of capital alone stopped the progress of his enterprise. His experiments, however, induced other parties to enter upon this cultivation; and, during the last two years, several large sugar estates have been taken up by private parties possessing the requisite capital; and a much larger number of persons of comparatively small means, have been actively prosecuting this branch of industry. Three sugar-mills are already in operation; several others are being erected, and still more are ordered, for the purpose of manufacturing the extensive acreage now under cane cultivation. At the mill on the estate at Springfield, near D'Urban, the result is not only highly satisfactory as regards the quality of the sugar, but fully bears out the calculation as to yield. Several Mauritius and West India planters have visited the sugar estates, and examined the statistics of the enterprise, and they bear uniform testimony to the fact, that in point both of quality and yield the cane of Natal is not surpassed by that of any sugar country in the world. The only difficulty that has presented itself is with regard to labour. The natives, though sufficiently numerous for all requirements, are not as yet well adapted for this kind of labour, and their peculiar habits and customs render them unwilling to engage in protracted service. This difficulty, however, is in course of removal, by the improving processes to which the coloured population are now subjected; and meanwhile the planters are taking measures for meeting the present or immediately-forthcoming exigency, by means of a limited immigration of suitable labourers from the East—such as those by whom exclusively the sugar estates of the Mauritius are worked.

With regard to the yield of the sugar-cane of Natal actual and sufficiently-extended experimental data have proved it to be equal to three tons of sugar per acre. The produce of last year's manufacture, owing to the deficiency of machinery, did not much exceed 100 tons; but with the machinery, arrived or ordered, it may safely be calculated that this year the production of sugar will be at least 1000 tons.

In June, last year, there were upwards of 600 acres of cane advancing

towards maturity, and between 300 and 400 acres more preparing for cane cultivation.

In the year 1856 there will be upwards of 1000 acres planted with cane; and every succeeding year the increase will be measured only by the pecuniary resources of the planters. The mills hitherto in use, or now arrived, are for cattle power only; but it has already been found necessary on the larger estates to order steam power, which will be available for next year's crops.

The accompanying Illustration, taken on the spot, represents the first public sale of Natal sugar in the Market Square of D'Urban. The sketch vividly portrays the scene as it occurred; and the principal persons are characteristic, and will be recognised by their friends. The waggons contain the sugar in bags; and one of the proprietors, Mr. H. Milner, J.P., of Springfield, with his helmet hat; as well as the auctioneer, Mr. Acutt, who patriotically rendered his services gratuitously on the occasion, are conspicuous objects standing on one of the waggons. There was a large muster of the inhabitants of all classes, and the prices realised for the whole averaged more than 30s. per cwt. At the conclusion of the sale champagne was provided for all who chose to partake of it; and success to the spirited proprietors of Springfield, Messrs. H. Milner and J. B. Miller, was drunk with hearty cheers, and responded to by the former gentleman.

The total quantity of sugar hitherto imported into Natal for its own use, and the partial supply of the regions beyond—the Free State and the Trans Vaal Republic—has not exceeded 300 tons annually. Natal will, therefore, after the present year, not only supply this demand, but export largely to the Cape Colony and England. It will thus greatly aid the extinction of slavery, by contributing to the supply of sugar produced by free labour on our own colonial soil. This circumstance alone entitles Natal to the utmost support of the mother country in the development of its vast and varied resources.

By an adequate supply of capital (which for so national an object, we hope will be forthcoming) the harbour works of Port Natal could be accelerated so as permanently to deepen the entrance for ships of all burden; and the interests of commerce, humanity, and civilisation alike demand that this port should be rendered available to the utmost extent of its capabilities.

Port Natal, from its situation with reference to our Eastern commerce, is adapted to become a harbour of refuge, and a calling port for supplies and repairs. Whilst, as regards the vast interior of the African continent, it is adapted to be the entrepôt of commerce, and the gateway through which chiefly must pass the agencies that are to civilise and Christianise the benighted millions of its barbarian tribes.

At the present time the harbour works are advancing but slowly, from the want of adequate funds; but, with scarcely any assistance from the art or labour of man the entrance is already available for vessels of 300 tons burden; and the General Screw Company's steamers, the *Natal* and *Cape of Good Hope*, each of 700 tons, found no difficulty in entering or departing from the port.

FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

WE promised lately to give a full description of evening dresses; and though what is called the London season is still in the future, parties are already sufficiently frequent for thought of toilettes to be necessary.

Rich fabrics and profuse trimmings seem as much in vogue as ever; indeed, it may be doubted if the prevailing taste in these particulars has yet reached its culminating point. Brocade, lace, fringe, and all the ingenious devices for producing a gorgeous effect which belong to the milliner's art seem to vie with each other for favour and popularity. Our readers may judge from our description if this be not the case.

There is, however, a very pretty, and comparatively simple, dress suitable for the present season, composed of pink glacé silk, made with three skirts, each skirt edged with a double row of fringe, the lower fringe being laid on stiff tulle; *corsage à la grecque*, ornamented with fringe, and bretelles trimmed with the same. Short full sleeves, made of puffs of tulle and fringe.

A blue glacé silk dress has three flounces brocaded in scallops, each scallop edged with blonde. The corsage is plain and pointed, with braces to correspond with the flounces. Short sleeves, composed of alternate puffs of blue silk and white tulle.

A white silk dress is made with three flounces; each flounce edged with a double row of blonde laid on tulle, each row of blonde being surmounted by a ruche of ribbon.

Another white silk dress has five flounces, each flounce edged with a band of blue silk to the depth of nearly three inches; above this band appears about an inch of the white silk, and then a strip of the blue silk, likewise an inch wide, is laid on; the stripes thus formed being edged with a row of narrow black velvet with stamped edges. To complete the richness of this dress, a row of white fringe falls over the lower and broader blue stripe. Corsage to correspond, long-waisted and pointed, and made with bretelles.

Moiré antique is still much worn, and often with double skirts. Sometimes the lower skirt is of plain silk, the same colour, covered with lace flounces; the upper skirt being in this case edged with lace.

For very youthful belles, ball-dresses are made of tulle and other light fabrics, profusely trimmed with flowers; and our readers may be glad to learn that both black and white lace worn over colours—a style which was lately a little rrococo—are coming again into favour.

Gaze de Chambéry is also a good deal worn for dinner-dresses. There is one of a very rich pattern, with double skirt; it has a white ground; each skirt being edged with longitudinal stripes of blue satin, and having between the stripes a garland of roses.

There are some very pretty jackets for dinner-dress composed of a mixture of black and white lace; they are ornamented either with black velvet, or velvet the colour of the dress. Scarlet, contrasted either with white or black, is a favourite colour.

Coiffures are particularly tasteful just now. There is a wreath of water-lilies and grasses, which, though drooping at the sides, comes much more than heretofore on the top of the head.

A very pretty head-dress is formed of ivy-leaves and pink ribbon, with a bow of pink ribbon behind, and one very long streamer of pink convolvulus at the side.

Another is composed of bandeaux of blue velvet, which pass across the head; with a mixture of pink roses and white blonde at the side and back.

A simple wreath of blue and white flowers, intermixed with blue ribbon, is also very pretty; and we may mention a head-dress of ivy-leaves made in black velvet with berries, and loops of beads in any bright colour.

A more matronly coiffure is of black velvet and black lace, with a cluster of moss rosebuds at the side, and deep black lace falling over the back of the head.

Another of a similar character is composed of black velvet, groseille ribbon, and black currants, with three rows of lace—the centre one black, the others white—at the back.

There is no great change in walking-dresses just at present, though it is expected that in the early part of the spring close-fitting jackets will be a good deal worn out of doors. Meanwhile there is a very elegant rather short mantle of black cloth, trimmed with satin and velvet braid, and satin buttons, and looped up gracefully over the arms. Also a mantle of black velvet, trimmed with purple velvet and a deep fringe of black and purple, with black and purple tassels down the front.

Bonnets are still small, but they come forward and fit round to the shape of the face. A very stylish one is composed of green silk, black velvet, and black lace; a full blonde cap underneath, with roses and green velvet leaves.

In preparation for the bright days we may now expect, there are some gayer novelties. There is a bonnet of Terry velvet, of the shade which is often described as China blue; on one side is a blue feather; and the bonnet is otherwise trimmed with white blonde, and has outside a sort of second brim turned back. The cap is composed of white blonde and blue flowers.

Next we may describe a bonnet of white tulle, entirely covered by two deep falls of black lace, and having the brim and curtain edged, for about two inches deep, with violet-coloured velvet. A feather to correspond is placed on one side very forward, so as partially to intermingle with the cap; while on the other side of the face are pink roses with violet-coloured velvet leaves.

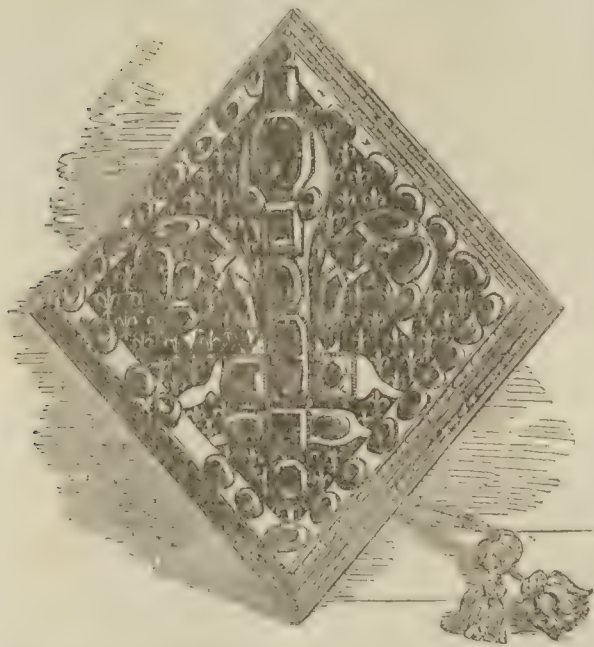
Another bonnet has a foundation of white tulle with bands of pink silk of graduated width passing from the crown to the brim, and showing the puffs of tulle between them. The top of the crown is of pink silk, and round it is placed a full fall of deep blonde, the back part passing over the curtain and the other falling in front. A feather of pink and white falls very forward on one side, in the style already described; and on the opposite side beneath the brim are pink flowers.

(For our information on Dress and Fashion we are indebted to the courtesy of Madame EINSTEIN DE VY, 73, Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-square.

Memorabilia,
LITERARY, ANTIQUARIAN, SCIENTIFIC, AND
ARTISTIC.

"A little think may let in much light."—OLD PROVERB.

THE CLASP OF ST. LOUIS.



This beautiful specimen of medieval jewellery is now in the Museum of the Louvre, Paris, though formerly belonging to the Royal Abbey of St. Denis. In the "Histoire de l'Abbaye Royal de St. Denis," by Felicien, Paris, 1700, this jewel is figured and described as the clasp (*agraffe*) of the Royal mantle of St. Louis; but Millet, who wrote before Felicien, calls it the clasp of the Royal mantle used in the Coronation ceremony. The clasp is of silver-gilt, enamelled, and ornamented with precious stones; the field of dark blue enamel, and powdered with small fleurs-de-lis, gilt. The precious stones set round the border are rubies, whilst those on the large fleur-de-lis are rubies, emeralds, and sapphires—the largest stones being sapphires, and the square ones emerald. The large fleur-de-lis is merely a thin plate of metal fastened to the surface of the enamel; and the precious stones being in raised settings, a great richness of character is given to the whole.

NOTES.

"YANKEE DOODLE."—The history of this popular melody, and its accompanying songs, is not very clear; and a great deal has lately been written (both in this country and in America) which tends only to make "confusion more confused." The tune became popular without the aid of any words. It has no recognised rhymes of a national character belonging to it. In the United States it is used as a march. The only words now associated to it in America is the following doggerel quatrain:—

Yankee Doodle came to town
Upon a little pony;
He stuck a feather in his hat,
And called it Macaroni.

Many songs have been written to the air. One, by T. S. Fessenden (printed in his "Original Poems," 1804), has great merit:—

A merry tale I will rehearse,
As ever you did hear, Sir,
How Jonathan set out, so fierce,
To see his dearest dear, Sir.

Yankee Doodle, keep it up,
Yankee Doodle dandy,
Mind the music—mind the step,
And with the girls be handy.

There are forty-eight more stanzas! The author adds, in a note, "Yankee Doodle," a ludicrous musical air, which, I believe, was first invented by the English, in derision of the Americans, whom they style "Yankees." The Americans frequently wrote ludicrous songs to this tune. The song printed in "Memorabilia" (Jan. 26) was given last year in one of the numbers of the *Albany Argus*. The seventh stanza, which runs thus, is wanting in your Correspondent's copy:—

It scared me so I ran the streets,
Nor stopped, as I remember,
Till I got home and safely locked
In granny's little chamber.

In the *Albany Argus*, Dr. Shuckburg is said to have been the author of the tune as well as the words, and to have written both in 1755. This is certainly an error, as far as the tune is concerned, because I have discovered it in an old collection of dances, published by John Walsh in 1745. It is there called "Kitty Fisher's Jig," and evidently connects itself with the well-known rhyme:—

Lucy Locket lost her pocket,
Kitty Fisher found it,
Not a penny was there in't,
Only binding round it.

Mr. Halliwell, in a note upon the above ("Nursery Rhymes," edit. 1843, p. 229), says "Lucy Locket and Kitty Fisher were two celebrated courtesans of the time of Charles II. It was to the tune of this nursery rhyme that the song of 'Yankee Doodle' was written." The first part of this note is wrong. The two ladies in question belong to the reign of the second George, and were well-known characters (rival dancers, I believe) of the time. The tune, as noted in Walsh's copy (the earliest yet discovered), is as follows:—

KITTY FISHER'S JIG.



It has been asserted that the rhyme which I have quoted, "Yankee Doodle came to town," is as old as Cromwell's time; and that it was originally sung *Nanke Doodle*. This term is supposed to apply to the Protector, and the other lines were designed to "allude to his going into Oxford, with a single plume, fastened in a knot called a macaroni." This may be the case as far as the rhyme is concerned; but I certainly cannot assign any such antiquity to the tune. It has all the character of the Hanoverian period of popular music, and, at present, its date extends no farther.

EDWARD F. RIMBAULT.

STATE OF THE ROADS IN CROMWELL'S TIME.—The following may be quoted in illustration of "the state of English roads in the time of Cromwell," or thereabouts:—1. "Preamble of an Act for paving Drury Lane and the town of St. Giles in the fields. 3 Jacob. I., p. 1097."—"Whereas the town of St. Giles in the fields, and that part thereof which leadeth to Holborne, and the lane called Drury Lane, leading from St. Giles in the fields towards the Strand and towards New Inn, is of late years, by occasion of the continuous rode there and often carriages, become deep, foul, and dangerous to all that pass those ways." 2. "Rushworth. Vol. II., pt. ii., p. 89. Anno 1630."—"The highways in all counties of England in great decay, partly so grown, that men think there is no course by the common law, or order from the state, to amend the same; and the work-days appointed by the statute are so omitted or idly performed that there comes little good by them." 3. "Life of Lord Keeper North. Vol. I., p. 271. Temp. Charles 2nd."—"From Newcastle his Lordship's road lay to Carlisle. The Northumberland Sheriff gave us all arms. And, because the hideous road along by the Tyne, for the many and sharp turnings and perpetual precipices, was, for a coach not sustained by main force, impassable, his Lordship was forced to take horse, and to ride most part of the way to Hexham." It may be added that, in many parts of England, the mere

material for road-making was not accessible before the time of canals. All the good roads in Gloucestershire, for instance, are made of stone blasted out of the rocks at Clifton, and the county possesses no other stone fit for the purpose.—BERN.

ANCIENT INK.—Persons in the habit of seeing old MSS. are often struck with the black appearance of the ink. The following receipt, which occurs on a piece of parchment in the hand of the fifteenth century, is pasted on the first leaf of the Cottonian MS., Titus A., xxii.:—

"Uncia gallarum miscetur et uncia gummi

Bis 2° vitrioli, superaddas octo falerii."

EDWARD F. RIMBAULT.

QUERIES.

"THE LUMP OF GOLD."—A GRAMMATICAL QUERY.—A diurnal critic, in an otherwise highly eulogistic notice of Charles Mackay's new poem "The Lump of Gold," takes the poet to task for "violation of grammar" in the following instances:—

"Tradition itself has forgot them."—"The Pharaohs are forgot."—"That civil discord might have broke."

I wish to ask, whether in poetry it is not permitted to say either forgot or forgotten—broke or broken? Whether the critic is not wrong; and whether hundreds of instances might not be culled from our best writers, to prove that the poet is right in the license which he has taken? Two instances occur to my recollection at this moment: the first in the world-renowned song, "Should auld acquaintance be forgot"; and the second in Thomas Campbell's lines on the Battle of Waterloo, "Our plumes have waved in combats that ne'er shall be forgot." Perhaps some of your correspondents will be able to throw a further light on the subject.—C. FITZHUGH.

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF "A BULLY"?—Used in its friendly sense, this word seems to be a diminutive of brother, and to have the same meaning as the common Staffordshire word *butty*. But in the sense of braggart, ruffian, or bravo, its derivation is by no means clear. The animal, bull, and the Pope's official bull, have each been suggested as its origin. In Spenser's "View of the State of Ireland," (*temp. Elizabeth*) we find the following passage:—"There is one use among them, to keep their cattle, and to live themselves, the most part of the year in *boodies*, pasturing upon the mountain and waste wild places, and removing still to fresh land as they have depastured the former. By this custom of *boodying* there grew in the mean time many great enormities. If there be any outlaws or loose persons, they are evermore succoured in these *boodies*. Besides, such stealths of cattle as they make they bring commonly to these *boodies*, being upon these waste places, where they are readily received and the thief harboured from danger of law. Moreover, the people that thus live in these *boodies* grow thereby the more barbarous, and live more licentiously than they could in towns, using what manners they list, and practising what mischiefs and villanies they will, either against the Government or against private men." It is by no means impossible that the term *bully*, in its vicious sense, took its origin from the kind of *boodying* here described.—BERN.

THE CROSS OF CHRIST.—I have seen it stated that the original form of the "Cross of Christ" was not similar to that usually represented, but like the letter Y, or rather V, with a short upright stem affixed, but one of the arms longer than the other: in fact, a tree with two leafless branches, both springing nearly from the root. "The accursed tree." If this be true, can any of your numerous antiquarian correspondents inform me of the time when, and the reason why, it was changed? It involves the important questions of the sign made at baptism, the form of cathedrals, churches, chancels, &c., the crosses on steeples, rood-screens, and all kinds of church carvings and decorations; and as the present time is very active in ecclesiastical erections and restorations, and great weight is by many attached to the form, we should be extremely careful not to substitute a fallacy.—J. H. MESSENGER.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

CHRISTMAS HYMN.—As an answer to Mr. Hulbert's inquiry of the 19th inst., Dr. Byrom, of Manchester, was the author of the hymn; and John Wainwright, the organist of the collegiate church there, of the tune. The hymn is almost universally known as "Byrom's Hymn;" and the tune as "Stockport," out of respect to the place where Wainwright was born. I believe the hymn was first sung to the tune at the collegiate church on Christmas-day, 1750. Mr. Wainwright was an organist and composer of music of no mean order. I am in possession of a printed volume of his tunes published near one hundred years ago. It is entitled "A Collection of Psalm Tunes, Anthems, Hymns, and Chants, for one, two, three, and four voices; composed by Mr. John Wainwright, Organist of the Collegiate Church at Manchester." In this book is the tune and the hymn at full length. It is entitled "A Hymn for Christmas-day; the words by Dr. Byrom, of Manchester." I think this may at once be accepted as an unquestionable authority.—Aa. ECCLES, Marple.

TAYLOR, THE WATER POET.—The passage quoted from the author's "Wit and Mirth" in your number for January 5th—"One asked a fellow what Westminster Hall was like?"—"Marry," quoth the other, "tis like a butler's box at Christmas among gamesters, for whosoever loseth, the box will be sure to be the winner"—refers to a custom which anciently prevailed among the members of our Inns of Court, when gaming, to put a part of the winnings into a box kept for that purpose, and called the "Butler's Box." The contents of which were at Christmas given to the butler of the Inn. The following from Cotgrave's "English Treasury of Wit and Language," 1635, p. 163, serves to illustrate this meaning:—

Th're sure fair gamester's use
To pay the Box well, especially at *In* and *In*.
Innes of Court Butlers would have but a
Bad Christmas of it else.

F. R. S.

TESTONS.—"Sir John Rainsford meeting Parson Brookes, the principle deviser of the copper coin, threatened to break his head, for that he had made his Sovereign Lord (the most beautiful Prince, King Henry) with a red and copper nose. So base and corrupted with copper were his (Henry VIII's) moneys, as also of King Edward VI., that some of them which was then called *Testons*, because the King's head was thereon figured, contained but twopence farthing in silver, and other fourpence halfpenny."—*C Camden's Remains*, art. "Money."—J. M. PINKS.

TESTERS, OR TESTONS.—Allow me to correct a mistake, or rather a pair of mistakes, into which your correspondent, J. C. W. (in the No. for Dec. 22), falls, relative to the word *Testone*. 1. He says it never was a legal name for a coin. In the Papal States I know the following to be correct—viz., the silver currency, which is as follows:—

1. Scudo (crown), 10 Pauls = 4s. 2d. 4. Papetto, 2 Pauls ... = 0s. 10d.
2. Mezzoscuolo, 5 Pauls = 2s. 1d. 5. Paolo, Paul ... = 0s. 5d.
3. Testone, 3 Pauls ... = 1s. 3d. 6. $\frac{1}{2}$ Paolo, $\frac{1}{2}$ Paul ... = 0s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Testone is a silver coin of the Papal States, and has been so for ages probably. 2. J. C. W. derives *Testone* from *Tete*; but it is an Italian word of itself, signifying "a large head," from *Testa*, the Italian for head.—J. B. H.

GUIERS.—Your correspondent "W. W." makes inquiries regarding a mummified custom practised in Scotland by the boys before Yule. Those engaged in it are called *Guisers*, or *Guisers*—equivalent to *Masks*—from the dress or disguise in which they appear. Of late years the custom has fallen much into disrepute. But in my young days—twenty-five, or, by'r Lady, some thirty years ago—boys in buckram, often armed cap-a-pie with culinary implements, and all sorts of extemporised weapons, used to form themselves into regular bands of *Guisers*. They entered a house with but little ceremony, and immediately commenced their exhibition. They were generally received with good humour, and a guerdon bestowed on the purse-bearer, to be expended on a yule bonfire. I subjoin one of the most popular of their performances, at least as much of it as my memory can furnish. Although the dialogue is rudely constructed, it will not be without interest to the readers of your "Notes," from some quaint national allusions.

DEE DUN.

Galation. Here am I, Galation. Galation is my name;
With sword and buckler by my side, I hope to win the game.
St. Andrew. The game, sir, the game, sir; it is not in your power,
I'll cut you down to inches, in less than half an hour.
Galation. My body's made of iron, my head is made of steel;
I'll draw my bloody weapon, and slay you on the field.
St. George. Here am I, St. George. I shine in arms bright,
A gallant champion, and a worthy knight.
St. Patrick. Who is St. George, but St. Patrick's knave,
Who stole his horse, and was sold for a slave.
St. George. I say, St. Patrick, you lie, sir.
St. Patrick. Dry out your sword and try, sir,
I'll run my rapier through you, and make you fly away, sir.
[They fight.—ST. PATRICK goes down.]
Doctor. Here am I, the good Doctor Jones,
With a leek for the lug, and a salve for the bones.
Dominum romanum nichilum segs.
Take out the drink, and get upon your legs;
O. Cromwell. Here am I, Oliver Cromwell, as you may suppose,
With my hard round head, and my long copper nose;
I made the French to tremble, my enemies to quake;
I beat the jolly Dutchman, and made him to awake;
So out of the house, ye ar rogues every one;
Ye long-bearded rascals, be quick and be gone.

THE CONSTABLE FAMILY OF UPSALL.—Your correspondent "Antiquarian" will find some particulars of the descent of the Constables of Upsall in Poulson's "History and Antiquities of the Seignior of Holderness," ii., 235.—THOMAS BAKER, Manchester.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MANCHESTER AND LIVERPOOL CLUBS.—It will be remembered that in the match last year between these two Clubs, Manchester came off victorious by a large majority. We are glad to hear that the Liverpool men have been roused into energy by this defeat, and are about to make a determined effort to retrieve their lost laurels. The terms of a new contest have been settled, and the struggle is to commence at Liverpool on Wednesday the 20th inst. May the best men win!

STAMFORD INSTITUTION CHESS TOURNAMENT.—A little tourney has been commenced at this Institution, and the first meeting on Monday the 4th inst. was attended by no less than sixty members. The following is the list of the combatants engaged in the opening jousts:—

WINNERS.	LOSERS.	WINNERS.	LOSERS.
Brogden v.	Desborough.	Reynolds v.	Agar.
Young v.	Bate.	Hewitt v.	Paradisa.
Mird v.	Dalton.	Laxton v.	Schofield.
Smith v.	Ford.	Kitchener v.	Smith.

In this, and in every tournament of the kind, the Secretary should send us the games. It is impossible for us to tell whether they are worth publishing until we have played them through.

W. M. Q.—White cannot Castle in the position indicated.

F. S.—Problem No. 622 cannot be solved in three moves.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 623, by F. J. Derby, P. P. T. Simpson, Alfred and Holloway, Q. K., Sunderland; Boz. M. D., A. Midly, Cartouch, Philz, N. B., Laggery, Bumble, Arnold, T. W. P., J. C. E. S., C. D., Exeter, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 624, by J. Y. Middleham, Herveen, Ernest and René F. R. of Norwich, Alfred, Dodger, B. B., Edna, O. T., Civa, T. W. M., G. P., A. Z., S. P. Q. R., Philz, Perseus, Andrew, P. H. S., M. P., D. D., Fitz-John, Old Salt, Bungler, Medius, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF EXIGMAS by J. Y. T. P. M. F. R. of Norwich, Derzyon, E. S., Perreus, D. J., Philidor, M. M., Old Salt, Bungler, T. W. M., G. P., W. M. D. D., Clodius, Eilan, Mue, Doc, Oxoniensis, Graff, Rusticus, Bridger, Learner, M. P., Chess Graduate, Asacus, Tom-Tom, F. P. S., R. D., are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 622.	SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 624.
WHITE. BLACK.	WHITE. BLACK.
1. B to Q sq K to Q 5th	1. K to K 7th Kt to Kt (best)
2. B to Q Kt 3rd K to K 4th, cr (a)	2. Q to Q Kt sq Anything
3. P to K 3rd P takes B	3. Q, B, or K mates, according as Black plays.
4. P to Q 4th—Mate.	

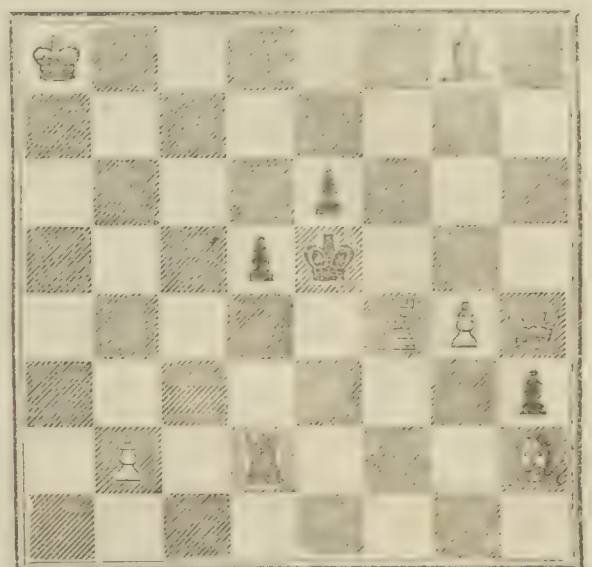
(a) 2. 3. R to K B 5th P takes B R to Q B 5th 4. R to K B 4th—Mate.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 623.	SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 625.
WHITE. BLACK.	WHITE. BLACK.
1. B to Q B 7th R to K B 4th	1. B to Q K 5th
2. R to K R 6th Any move	2. B to Q 8th
3. K R, Kt, or P gives mate.	3. B to K B 6th All forced moves.
	4. B to K 4th
	5. Kt mates

PROBLEM No. 626.

By Mr. W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHESS AT THE ST. GEORGE'S CLUB.

While enjoying the pre-eminence of being considered the most important and influential Chess society in Europe, the St. George's Club has long been under the reproach of doing less for the interest of the game than clubs of comparatively minor consequence. It is avowed by many that this institution, with all its advantages, contributes little or nothing in the shape of fine examples of play to our Chess literature; that it neither initiates nor encourages Chess matches, Chess assemblies, or Chess undertakings of any description whatever; and, in fine, except for the mere amusement of a few of its own members, it is of no value or utility at all. It must be admitted, we believe, that the St. George's Club of late years has not done all it might and should have done for the promotion of Chess play, and in this respect it stands in unfavourable contrast with its predecessor the Old Westminster Chess-club, and indeed with itself in the earlier stages of its career. But it must never be forgotten that even of late years it originated and carried out the grandest and most celebrated Chess reunion ever known—the Congress of 1851; and did this, in the face of an opposition as powerful as it was unnatural and unscrupulous. Since that period, however—whether from disgust at the inconsistent opposition they met with, or owing to the precarious tenure of their alliance with the Polytechnic Institution—the St. George's members have certainly been in the rearward of Chess events. It is with unfeigned pleasure, therefore, that we announce the commencement of a series of Consultation Games between four of the chief players of the club, and which series, it is said, will be followed by a tourney, not confined to members of the club, but in which eminent players of other clubs will be invited to take part. This is as it should be; and, carried through with the spirit and liberality this club can exhibit when it chooses, these enterprises will impart a salutary stimulus not only to the Chess play of London, but to every Chess society in Europe.

Since writing the above, we have been favoured with copies of two games already played at the consultation sittings. The combatants being Messrs. Staunton and Owen on the one side against Messrs. Lowenthal and Barnes on the other. The first game is but indifferent, and terminated as a drawn battle. The second we give below:—

(Pawns' Gambit.)

WHITE (Messrs. S. and O.)	BLACK (Messrs. L. and B.)	WHITE (Messrs. S. and O.)	BLACK (Messrs. L. and B.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	18. K R to K Kt 4th P to K R 3rd	
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to Kt to Q B 3rd	(d)	
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	19. K R takes Kt (c) Q B takes Kt (/)	
4. P to Q Kt 4th	B takes Q Kt P	20. Kt takes B P takes R	
5. P to Q B 3rd	B to Q R 4th	21. P to K Kt 4th Q to K R 6th	
6. P to Q 4th	P takes P	22. K B takes K Kt P K to Q sq	
7. Castles	P to Q 3rd	(ch) (g)	
8. Q to Q Kt 3rd	Q to K B 3rd	23. Q to K B 4th Kt to K 2nd	
9. P takes P	K B to Q Kt 3rd	24. K B to K B 7th Kt to Q B sq (i)	
10. K B to Q Kt 5th	Q B to Q 2nd	(h)	
11. P to K 5th	P takes P	25. Q B to Q R 3rd Kt to Q B 3rd	
12. K R to K sq (a)	K Kt to K 2nd	26. Q B to K B 8th Kt to Q sq	
13. P takes P	Q to K Kt 3rd	(k)	
14. K R to Q 3rd	Q to K R 4th	27. Q B takes K Kt P Kt takes K B	
15. K B to K 4th	K Kt to Kt 3rd	28. B takes K R Kt takes B	
	(b)	29. Q to K B 5th (ch) K to Q sq	
16. Q to Q R 4th (c) Q B to K 3rd		30. Q to K B 6th K to K sq	
17. Q Kt to Q 2nd Q B to Q 4th		31. Q takes Kt (ch)	

And, after a move or two more, Black surrendered.

(a) This appears for a moment to give Black time, but the Rook played thus materially strengthens the attack, and he will be found playing an important part as the contest deepens.

(b) A Bishop to K B 4th would perhaps have been better.

(c) Threatening to win a Piece by playing P to K Kt 4th. The game from this moment abounds with critical and interesting situations.

(d) Their adversaries were of opinion that if Messrs. S. and O. had now thrown up the K Kt Pawn, they would have won the Black Queen. This, however, was a mistake. The Queen could have escaped, as we will show. Suppose

18. P to K Kt 4th Q to K R 3rd 19. Q Kt to Q B 4th Q to K R 6th No, &c.

(e) Quite sound; and very unexpected, we should fancy, by Messrs. L. and B.

(f) Had they taken the Rook, their Queen was lost, *ex. gr.*—

19. P to K Kt 4th P takes R 21. K B to his square &c., &c.

(g) Q to K 4th first presented itself as a crushing move, but was soon found to be useless; still, in reply, Black might Castle on the Queen's side and relieve themselves of all their embarrassment.

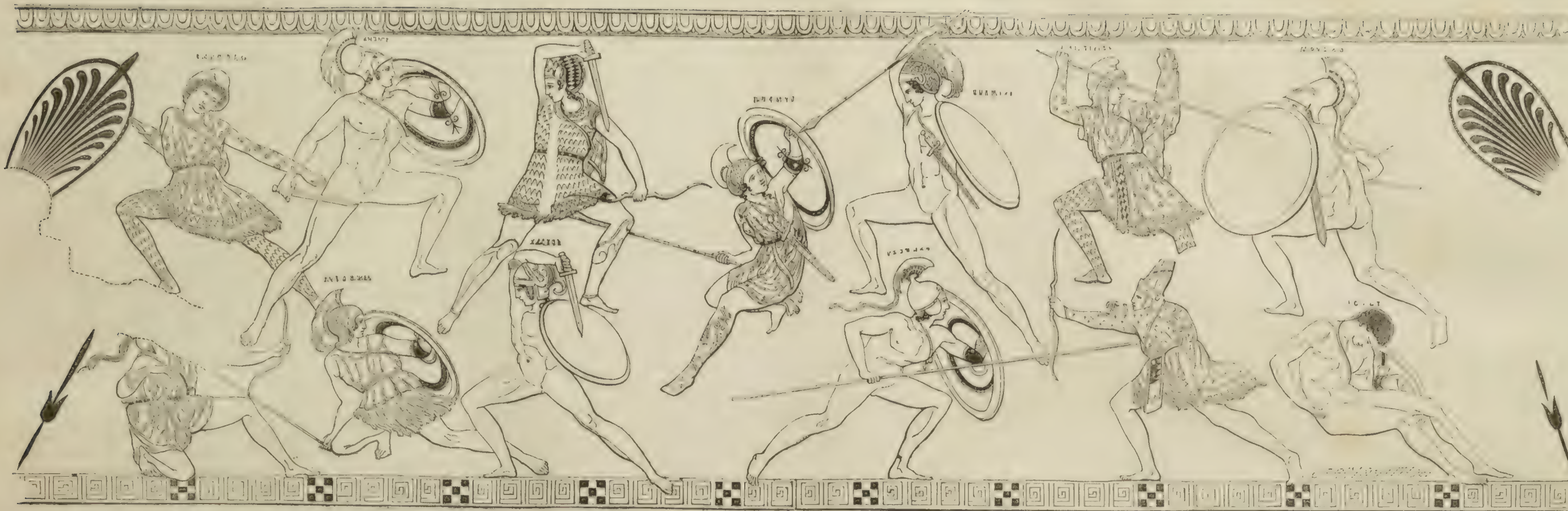
(h) A very troublesome move for Black, as it prevents their anticipated move of Kt to Q 4th, and renders the advance of the K R P dangerous if not fatal.

(i) Had they played the obvious and promising *coup*—K R to K B sq—the game would most likely have proceeded in this way:—

24. Q B to Q R 3rd K R to K B sq 25. Q takes R 26. K to K sq Q takes K Kt P (ch)

And Black cannot save themselves.

(k) An excellent move. Not simply because it shut in the adverse K's Rook inextricably, but because it rendered the step Black relied on for extricating their Queen—Kt to Q 3rd—unavailing. The merit of suggesting this happy manœuvre is due to Mr. Owen. If instead of it, they had played R to Q sq, Black would have answered with Kt to Q 5th, and have released their long-imprisoned Queen.



FIGURES UPON A VASE RECENTLY FOUND AT CUMÆ.

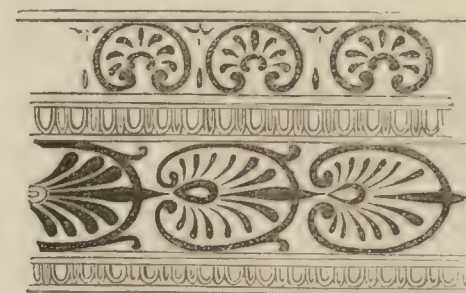
THE EXCAVATIONS IN CUMÆ.

(From our own Correspondent.)

We are glad to be enabled to report that his Royal Highness the Count of Syracuse has recommenced the excavations in Cumæ. They have been suspended for upwards of a year, and it was with the high satisfaction of the artistic world that the workmen again entered on their interesting labours on the 19th November last. The site chosen for excavation is close to the main road to Licola, and at no great distance from the wall of the city; in short, it is in the midst of the Necropolis—a field which has been so fruitful of splendid remains of antiquity within the last three years. The researches of his Royal Highness were not at first attended with any great success, as the tombs into which he entered were found to have been rifled and broken; but, on further investigation, a fragment of a vase struck his attention, by the exquisite delicacy of a figure which was drawn upon it. Would that the other fragments could be found! Orders were issued to sift the earth in the tomb, and the result was that all the pieces were found which compose another beautiful Vase, which is the subject of my Illustration. In its form there is nothing either new or remarkably elegant: it is of that class called "Lecythus," of which we find so many in Magna Græcia; but the great merit of this work of art consists in the delicate minuteness and the wonderful grace which distinguish the design. His Royal Highness has compared it with the splendid collection in the Museum, and is of opinion that in these respects there is nothing there to equal it. The subject of the design is not uncommon; in fact is a very favourite one, and frequently found on these fictile vases. It represents the battle between the Greeks and the Amazons, and it is somewhat of a peculiarity that, with the exception of two, where the letters are effaced, every figure has its name above it, yet inscribed so delicately, that a glass is required to read them. A glance



VASE RECENTLY FOUND AT CUMÆ.



is sufficient to show the spirit, the ease, and elegance which mark the figures. There is nothing stiff or cramped—it is the flexibility of nature we look upon, and we feel almost that the combatants are inspired with life. An interesting question has been started as to what fabric it owed its birth to. It is the habit here to attribute every specimen of high art to Nola; but the distinguished antiquary Signor Fiorelli, to whom the world is much indebted for many and most valuable illustrations of art, is of opinion that this beautiful vase was made rather at Cumæ. Cumæ had undoubtedly a high reputation for its terra-cotta works. Pliny speaks of them in his "Natural History" (lib. xxxv., cap. 46), as does Tibullus in his "Elegies" (lib. iii., v. 50), not to mention other writers. The varnish, says Fiorelli, is certainly much finer and smoother than that of Nola, whilst the figures show an ease, a flexibility, and an abandon which it is rare to find. Superior, therefore, to the works of other fabrics, he is induced to consider that this vase was made in the city where it has been found; and of which, together with Reggio, it was said by Pliny that they "nobilitantur" such productions.

With regard to our design which gives in line the circumference of the vase the figures are all of the actual size. The second design represents the vase smaller than it is in reality; with the ornaments on the under part of the handle, and round the neck.

The height is about a palm, while the circumference is about a palm and a half.

We must not conclude this notice without acknowledging the gracious permission which his Royal Highness the Count of Syracuse accorded to us on our application, not only to inspect, but to make a drawing of, this vase;—indeed, upon all occasions that we have had to request similar favours of his Royal Highness, we have met with the same courtesy and liberality; showing that the Count of Syracuse is not only a munificent, but enlightened, patron of the arts. We are the more indebted to his Royal Highness on the present occasion, as we shall anticipate a work to be edited by Signor Fiorelli, as also the notice of the Società Archeologica. H. W.



INCIDENT ON BOARD "THE CRUISER," IN THE GULF OF RIGA.

THE FLYING SQUADRON IN THE GULF OF FINLAND.

In December last the rigour of the winter was strikingly manifested on board the *Cruiser* when in the Gulf of Finland: for the accompanying pictorial evidence of which we have to thank Lieut. A. Thrupp, of that ship. The scene was sketched on the 3rd Dec., 1855, while leaving the Island of Abro, near Arensburg, in the Gulf of Riga, thermometer at 9 deg. The whole ship outside was likewise covered with ice: three times in twenty-four hours the *Cruiser* and *Archer* were forced to weigh and steam some three miles further out, to clear the ice fast closing round them. In the Sketch, the unfortunate man being carried below had vainly endeavoured to hook the cat over the bows, in doing which he became covered with ice and frozen stiff; but, on being carried to the engine room, recovered after some hours' warming. The scene affords some idea of the difficulties and dangers encountered by the Flying Squadron before they were driven from their cruising-grounds by the severity of the weather. The *Cruiser* during the previous week lost an anchor and cable, had her

gig washed from the davits, tiller-ropes carried away; and, though in great danger during a heavy gale, was unable to shorten sail, from the ropes being frozen; her anchors at the bows, with all the lashings cut, still remained fast, and resisted all attempts to heave them from the side with crowbars and handspikes. In this state she left the Gulf of Riga for Faro Sound on the 9th of December—a whole day having been devoted in search of the lost anchor, without success.

GRAND DEMONSTRATION AT SAN FRANCISCO
FOR THE FALL OF SEBASTOPOL.

On November 26th a grand celebration took place at San Francisco on the arrival of the news of the taking of Sebastopol by the Allies. At an early hour the streets were filled with persons going and coming, in preparation for the festivities of the day. The offices of the French and English merchants were all closed, while business in the mercantile portion of the city

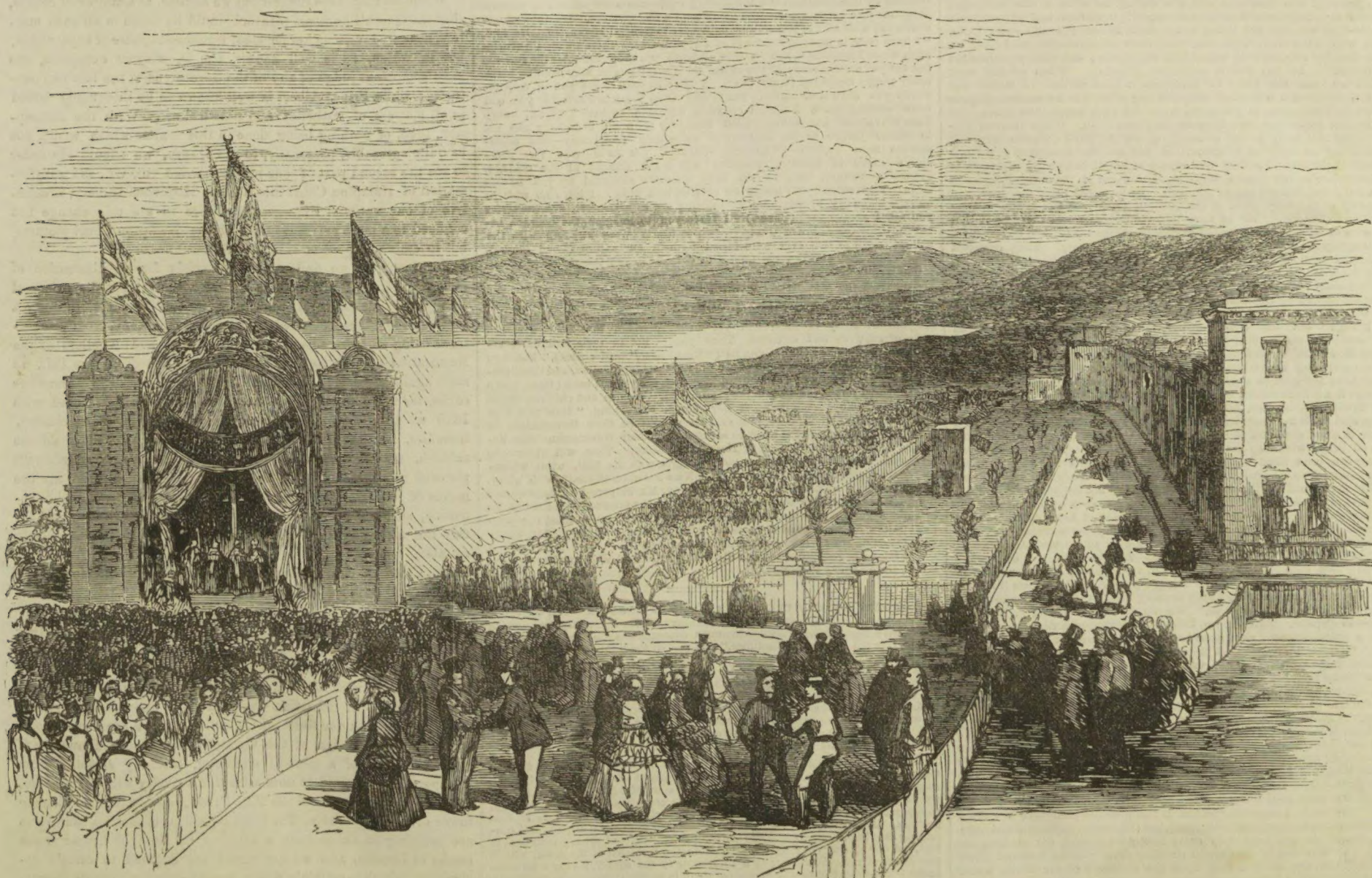
was nearly suspended. The weather was remarkably propitious. The air was clear and mild, and the sun shone brightly. No finer day could have been desired for the festival.

At ten a.m. the procession formed on Market-street, near Second, and marched to South Park, where a spacious pavilion had been prepared for the banquet. The procession was very large and imposing. It included all the principal French, English, and Italian residents here. A numerous band of music preceded the long line of the Allies. The order of the procession was as follows:—

Banners of the Allies. Advanced Guard of twenty-four persons, French, English, and Sardinians. Band. American Flag. French and British Consuls. British Naval Officers. Invited Guests. Presidents of the Committees. General Subscribers.

As the procession moved on, and during the day, salutes of 21 guns and 110 guns were fired from H.B.M.'s frigate *Amphitrite*, and from the rising ground on the south of the pavilion.

The multitude assembled around a high platform which had been erected



GRAND MANIFESTATION IN HONOUR OF THE SUCCESSES OF THE ALLIES IN THE CRIMEA. GIVEN AT SOUTH PARK, SAN FRANCISCO.

at the east or main entrance of the pavilion. A great number of elegantly-dressed ladies were present as spectators. Probably the whole number of persons on the ground at this time amounted to eight or ten thousand. The front of the pavilion excited universal admiration. Over a wide arch in the centre, were the words "8th September, 1855—Sebastopol." Above these were the national arms of France and England, while Fame blew her trumpet that the world might hear. Over all were allegorical figures of the four nations—France, England, Sardinia, and Turkey—embracing each other. On the arch were inscribed the names of the Generals and heroes of the Allied armies.

At the centre and rear of the platform an altar was erected, on which a silver crucifix and lighted candles were displayed. Wreaths of evergreens, the flags of the Allied nations, and allegorical paintings of different kinds, ornamented the remaining portions of the front of the pavilion. It was about 240 feet in length and 110 feet in breadth, and was calculated to seat comfortably at table about 2500 persons. Upon the canvas roof were displayed the flags of different nations that either sympathised with the Allies or with whom the former were at peace. The Stars and Stripes, of course, appeared among the national emblems.

In spite of all these preparations, however, the grand demonstration ended most unfortunately. Before the dinner was fairly over an attack was made by a gang of "rowdies" upon the Malakoff tower, and in a short time the banquet-hall was seen a scene of confusion, as will be seen from the description given by the *California Chronicle*:—

The tables broke down by the weight of those who stood upon them. Plates and bottles were carelessly smashed, and their contents scattered on the ground. The handsome lamps on the posts and the wreaths of flowers were broken and torn down. Nobody sat still on his seat; everybody mounted on the tables, to see what was going on. The great mass of the company seemed to have no feeling but regret at the abrupt and unforeseen termination of the banquet, and deep indignation at the shameful conduct of the blackguards who had caused the interruption. Noise, confusion, and strife—the most depraved and hideous rowdism—ruled supreme. A great many—some hundreds, it was said—vagrants and loafers, cut holes in the side of the pavilion, and then made themselves "at home." Others, of the same class, burst past the doorkeepers, and defied all attempts to exclude them. These fellows increased the din and confusion so much that it was impossible to proceed with the banquet; and, after unavailing attempts had been repeatedly made to restore order and peace, the company gradually withdrew from the pavilion. At one period there were nearly 3000 persons assembled within the pavilion.

At about four o'clock the greater portion of the company had left the pavilion. A band of nearly a thousand persons—principally Frenchmen—then marched in procession through the city, bearing the flags of the Allied Nations. There was no rowdism about these men; they marched soberly and gravely through the streets to the British Consul's, where they gave three hearty cheers for one and all of the Allies. It was understood that they next were to pay the same compliment at the French Consulate.

On the same evening a procession was formed which marched out to the residence of the Russian Consul, to salute him. It was preceded by a band of music. The American and Russian flags were twined together and borne in the procession. The crowd, numbering thousands, went to the Consul's, where speeches were made in praise of the Lands of the Slave and the Serf, and the community of interest which exists between the great slaveholder of the North and the Land of Stripes.

STORY OF THE SIEGE OF KARS.

On Friday morning, the 8th inst., Dr. Sandwith, the sole sojourner in Kars who has yet arrived in England, was entertained by his fellow-townsmen at Hull to a public breakfast at the Station Hotel. The Mayor (A. Bannister, Esq.) occupied the chair, and there was present a large number both of ladies and gentlemen. After the usual loyal toasts the Mayor proposed the health of Dr. Sandwith, jun. Three enthusiastic cheers were given for Dr. Sandwith. On the applause subsiding,

Dr. Humphry Sandwith, jun., said: Mr. Mayor, ladies and gentlemen,—When, seven years ago, I first set out from the town of Hull to seek my fortune in a distant land, high as were my anticipations, I never dreamed of the honour which awaited me on my return home. Gentlemen, my heart is full; but my tongue is feeble and inexperienced. (Cheers.) To you, Mr. Mayor, and those gentlemen who have planned this banquet, my thanks are chiefly due for the high honour that has been done me, and the pleasure you have afforded me in meeting so many of my fair countrywomen, whose bright eyes and fair complexions I have but dreamed of for the last seven years. (Cheers and laughter), and whom at one time I never hoped to see again. It is scarcely necessary for me to notice the delicacies spread out before me, when but a few weeks ago I was taking a luncheon off a poor old cavalry horse. Gentlemen, I can do little more than repeat my thanks for the honours you have this day conferred upon me. (Cheers.) But I cannot accept them as merely given to myself. I cannot forget my gallant old chief (Loud cheers)—who, though he lost his city never lost a battle. (Continued cheering)—who, although in one sense unfortunate, has crowned his honoured head with unfading laurels; and I think, therefore, you will agree with me when I say that at the top of that list of glorious heroes which this war has called forth the name of General Williams stands pre-eminent. Only those, perhaps, who have been with him during the whole of that campaign, disastrous as it may have been in one respect, yet glorious and advantageous in this—that we may say it has saved Asia Minor. (Cheers)—only those, I say, who have been with him, and have been enabled to follow his course step by step, and to watch him day by day, can rightly understand the difficulties he has had to encounter. (Cheers.) When we first went to Kars we met the army at Erzeroum, a mere rabble. I would not cast a slight upon a brave and long-suffering ally; but we cannot disguise the fact that the army to which we went had been beaten five times, and that the last battle had been the most disastrous of all. When General Williams joined that army he did so simply as her Majesty's Commissioner, and not with any authority as a General; he had not the command of a single regiment in the field; his duty was simply to report the course of events to his Government. But General Williams was equal to the circumstances in which he found himself placed. (Cheers.) He found the army dissolved, and the enemy at the very gates of the province. (Hear, and peulation among the officials. (Cheers.) He at once told the Governor and the officers that they were enriching themselves at the expense of the troops, and he told them so in language as plain as that I now use to you. (Hear.) They crouched to him, and from that time he was the actual Commander-in-Chief. (Cheers.) During the winter of 1854, and during 1855, his work was incessant; he prepared the army for a new campaign; but unfortunately, and indeed unhappily, he was not backed up at Constantinople. The Pacha was too busy in filling their coffers to meet General Williams's requisitions; but, nevertheless, this brought out the qualities of the hero of Kars more than ever, and he made the best of the resources he had. (Cheers.) General Mouraviev, at the head of a well-appointed army of 40,000 men, was just then preparing to besiege Kars. We were at that time at Erzeroum. Colonel Lake had gone on a month before to Kars, and had greatly improved the insignificant fortifications which he found; and, by Captain Thompson and Major Teissie siding him, they made that city what it has proved to be—impregnable to all but famine. (Loud cheers.) Four forced marches over a distance of about one hundred miles brought us to the city. We found the troops no longer what they had been—poor, neglected, destitute, ragged men; but their eyes were filled with courage and their hearts full of "Veeliam's Pacha," whom they recognised as their commander. They told us at every step that they would stand to the last; and I need not tell you how well and nobly they redeemed their word. For some few days we were menaced, but saw nothing of the Russians. On one occasion Colonel Lake and myself did venture to go and take a peep at them. It was early one morning, and that morning introduced me to my first experience of actual warfare, although I had gone through a campaign on the Danube. We set out before daylight. We rode for five or six miles to our outposts, which consisted of about 300 miserable cavalry. While taking a peep at the formidable Russians, my eyes were attracted to a dark body looming through the gloom which appeared to be bearing down upon us. We watched them carefully, but they appeared to disperse. Nevertheless, Colonel Lake deemed it advisable to commence a quiet retreat, and accordingly the Commander gave the words "Trot," "Canter." We had not proceeded far before three whole regiments of Russian dragoons, swept like a whirlwind down upon us. There was the crash of the carbines and the clash of swords, and they cut our little force to pieces, though, thank God! I am here to tell the story, but very few escaped to tell the tale. (Hear, hear, and sensation.) A few days after this day's incident, the alarm gun from the top of a battery was fired, and the word passed from mouth to mouth, "The foe, the foe!—they come!" (Hear, hear.) We sallied out, not from our intrenchments, but from the open camp that surrounded our breastworks, and then we saw a compact body of men, their bayonets gleaming in the morning sun, their flanks protected by cavalry and artillery—there, I say, we saw them advancing towards our breastworks. Every soldier there said, "Thank God, they have come at last! We are ready!" (Cheers.) I must tell you that at this time our total force was about 17,000, including a great number of irregulars: the enemy's force was 40,000 (Hear, hear.) As this huge body came nearer we pushed out our irregular cavalry, who were met by the Cossack irregular cavalry of the Russians. Their masses came on, and made a rush upon the extremity of our works, where they were met with a hailstorm of grape. Our cavalry sallied out and met the advancing columns, and on all sides raged the tide of war. (Cheers.) The

battle lasted but a short time—three hours at the utmost—and then the Russians retreated. (Great cheering.) Unluckily, we had no effective cavalry, or that might have been the first and last affair at Kars. (Renewed cheers.) It were long to tell you what followed. We had work enough to do, I can assure you. (Hear, hear.) Day after day, week after week, passed without any succours showing themselves, and without any assistance being forthcoming. Nevertheless, the hearts of the troops were in the right place. (Cheers.) The Turkish soldier stood out wonderfully. (Hear, hear.) General Williams at that time was constantly with the Turkish Marshal in command, and he said, "Now we are fairly and completely inclosed on all sides. You are here as Commander-in-Chief not only of the army but of the town and fortress, and I am here to give you advice." He still remained without any nominal command, but he was actually, *bona fide*, and absolutely, in command. We had at that time a large portion of the population disaffected towards us, namely the Christians—and a very good reason they had, I am sorry to say, for they had undergone ages of oppression at the hands of unworthy Governors and Pachas. (Hear, hear.) We had, besides, traitors in the camp; and all these things occupied the attention of the gallant General Williams. However, measures were instantly taken for the repression of these. (Hear, hear.) Week by week rolled on, varied only by an occasional skirmish, an occasional feint, or an occasional slight attack. Still there were craven spirits who counselled surrender; and, completely surrounded as we were by our poor, starved, unpaid soldiers, many of them gave way and deserted. General Williams at once adopted strong measures. Every soldier caught attempting to desert was tried by drumhead court-martial, and shot on the spot. Every man found communicating with the enemy was at once hung. But, gentlemen, brighter day was dawning for us; another glorious triumph was to be ours. On the 29th of September, when our troops were given way under the hope deferred which maketh the heart sick—on the 29th of September, shortly after the sun had risen, the roar of artillery was heard on the western extremity of our works, intermingled with the rattle of musketry. We knew then what had happened. We knew from the constant roll of musketry and the incessant roar of the cannon that the hour of assault had arrived. And we thanked God in our hearts, and each man buckled on his sword and rushed into the midst of the fray. (Cheers.) Seven mortal hours those poor troops fought against the enemy, whilst he made assault after assault. Some of our batteries were carried; but General Williams, with eagle eye, saw where they were required, and drove out at the point of the bayonet the Russians who had got into their batteries. (Cheers.) There they fought hand to hand with clubbed rifles, with daggers, even with stones. Again, again, and again their close columns came up, to be mown down by our artillery with grape-shot, and by the deadly and incessant fire of our riflemen. (Cheers.) After seven hours' mortal conflict, we saw at last the Russians retreating down the hill. (Loud cheers.) They had advanced double quick time in their attack; but I cannot express to you the speed with which they retired. (Laughter and cheers.) We then saw every shopkeeper—tailor, shoemaker, and saddler—in the place issue out, armed with their muskets and guns, and firing into the retreating soldiery. (Cheers.) The very women brought us ammunition in their aprons, and assisted us in every way, crying out, "We pray for you," "We will help you," "May God sharpen your swords!" (Hear, hear.) Some of these devoted and gallant women, I regret to say, fell—but they fell gloriously, like true heroines as they were. (Cheers.) Unhappily, at this time every grain of barley had been consumed, and we had not any cavalry force in the place, or this would have been the termination of our troubles. The Russians were able to retire to their camp, where they had 10,000 cavalry yet untouched and uninjured; so that, although their infantry was torn and shattered in pieces, by means of their cavalry they were still enabled to surround us. Ladies and gentlemen, I cannot describe to you the horrors that ensued in the month or two following this attack. There you saw women and children expiring by the wayside of famine; as you passed along they turned reproachful glances at the soldiery, almost as starving as themselves, exclaiming, "Why do you not go out to fight?" "Why keep us here to perish of hunger?" "Take the children, we can no longer support them!" Such a time as that was the time for trying the true soldiers. (Hear, hear.) And I am proud to say the soldiery there bore the test nobly. (Cheers.) The Turkish soldiers have been much abused, but they stood firmly and well under sufferings and trials which could scarcely be exceeded, and which I find it impossible to describe. (Hear, hear.) Many of them dropped down dead at their posts from sheer hunger and exhaustion; and in the forts, where scanty provisions for three days were laid up, there was not a single instance of a biscuit even being stolen. The hospitals were crowded with the sick and dying, and death stared us in the face daily, on every hand. (Hear.) But those who died, died like heroes; and to the last our works were maintained by that gallant band of starving soldiers. (Cheers.) At this time a Turkish Pacha, whose name I cannot mention without indignation, was constantly writing to us from Erzeroum, whence we expected him to come with a relieving force—"Hold out, I am coming;" "Hold out two days longer;" "Hold out three days longer;" hold out, I am coming." We did hold out, day after day, and week after week, but relief never came. (Hear, hear.) Perhaps he had not sufficient force, but however that was, if it had not been for his delusive promises of relief, the garrison of Kars would, to a man, have shouldered their muskets and buckled on their swords, and cut their way through the Russian force, leaving a heap of ruins behind them. (Cheers.) But this was not to be. The time came at last—the dreadful hour of capitulation. The hearts of every one swelled nigh to bursting with grief and indignation. (Hear, hear.) General Williams one snowy morning—for the weather by that time had become nipping cold—one snowy morning General Williams rode out to the Russian Camp with a flag of truce. He was met and conducted with all due respect and politeness to General Mouraviev. He said, "I have come to arrange the terms of a capitulation. There are certain articles upon which I must insist, and if you refuse them, you must remember the garrison has not yet surrendered; if you refuse them every gun in Kars shall be burst, every trophy destroyed. (Hear, hear.) I have no wish to rob you of trophies which you have well earned, but if the terms I ask are refused, you will have nothing but a famished crowd of disarmed soldiers." (Hear, hear.) That chivalrous and noble-minded man—for it would ill become me not to render justice to the chivalry of an enemy. (Applause)—that noble-minded man replied—"General Williams, you have won for yourself a name in history; posterity will stand amazed at the courage, at the endurance, and at the lofty qualities exhibited by you in this siege. Yourself and your troops are covered with glory. I have no wish to outrage humanity by anything unbecoming me as a General, and the terms you ask I accede to." (Cheers.) I leave you to imagine the emotion between those two brave Generals, whose hearts were swelling with the noblest feelings that ever were called forth in our nature. (Loud cheers.) Ladies and gentlemen, I am unable to describe to you the melancholy day of our capitulation; our poor troops, feeble and tottering from starvation and disease, marched out to meet—not a conquering, but a conquered and defeated foe. (Hear, and cheers.) They laid down their arms to their conquered enemy. They marched before a well-appointed, splendid, and magnificent array of men, and yet an array whom that poor wretched body of captives had defeated. They yielded not to their formidable besiegers—they yielded only to famine. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) But two days' provisions were left them at the time of their capitulation, and those provisions consisted only of a handful of biscuit on each man's back. (Hear, hear.) Never shall I forget the scene of the capitulation. Women and children wept from the house-tops; old warriors wept aloud, exclaiming, "How is it God has forsaken us?" The Turkish soldiers reproached their Government for thus deserting them, and it must be admitted that their Government was unworthy of such splendid troops. ("Hear," and cheers.) Time will show who was in fault. (Hear); but I think you will agree with me that, upon whomsoever the blame may rest, the garrison of Kars has covered itself with glory. I have now only a little indulgence to ask of you, Mr. Mayor. I beg to propose a toast. I have said how much I feel honoured by the presence of the ladies, for in Turkey they shut up the ladies in the harems. (Laughter)—a most vile practice. Allow me to propose the toast of "The Ladies of Hull." (Dr. Sandwith sat down amidst loud and continued cheering.)

The toast was responded to; and the health of General Williams having been drunk, the assembly dispersed.

ACCIDENT TO AN ACTRESS IN A PARISIAN THEATRE.—An accident occurred a few nights back to Mlle. Lefebvre, of the Opera Comique, which might have been attended with dangerous consequences. She had dressed for her part in the "Chien du Jardinier," and was on the point of entering on the stage, when, happening to stoop down, the long lace of her cap caught fire, and in a moment her head-dress was in flames. Notwithstanding the agitation caused by the occurrence, Mlle. Lefebvre had presence of mind enough to slip off the cap, and then to throw a cloth over her head, and extinguish the flame in the artificial flowers in her hair, which still remained on fire. When the persons of the theatre came to her assistance, the disaster was already at an end, and the actress was able to proceed at once with her part, though still under the influence of considerable emotion.—*Galignani's Messenger.*

THE CARNIVAL AT MADRID.—We are now in the midst of the Carnival, and nothing but fun and folly seem thought of. Yesterday (Feb. 3), as the worthy representative of the United States, Mr. Dodge, was riding towards the Prado, a mask sprung on the horse behind him with a clever jump, and, pronouncing his name, insisted on accompanying him on his ride in that position. Mr. Dodge, not exactly relishing making so public a display, and conceiving that the voice of his would-be companion was not wholly unknown to him, got down, and consigned his horse to the direction of the mask, who in due course of time returned it by a messenger to the owner, giving a fictitious name. The little Princess is taken out daily in an open carriage to the Prado, with different dresses—one day as a Manola, another as a Maja, &c.—*Letter from Madrid.*

ART REFORM.—No. I.

THE BURIED TREASURES OF HAMPTON COURT PALACE.

HAMPTON COURT is the only residence of the Queen in the grandiose palatial style of the seventeenth century. Whitehall, begun in colossal and imposing proportions, is only a monument of the intentions of the Royal patron of art and of the corresponding magnificence of the architect and painter whom he employed. Never, certainly, had English art such a patron, such an architect, and such a pictorial decorator; but Whitehall is after all not a palace, but the sign of a splendid intention. Greenwich, a noble specimen of the revival of the majesty of Rome, is no longer a Royal residence. Windsor, an imposing pile, from its extent and position, is a mixture of Mediaeval, Renaissance, and a modern fancy Gothic, which admits of no proper classification. Buckingham Palace has been, we cannot help thinking, a series of failures. It was, at first, a low Greek edifice, unsuited to our foggy climate, and miserably deficient in the elevation requisite for so wide an esplanade and so vast a vista. It is now improved in height, but so unrelieved as to look, not like a palace, but a French barrack, with a timid inclination towards Mansardism.

Now, Hampton Court is a PALACE, and more perfectly corresponding to that Royal title than any residence the Queen has. Unfortunately this noble structure appears to have been made the rubbish-hole of all the other Royal picture-galleries. If it were only a rubbish-hole, people would content themselves with eyeing curiously the Anglo-cinque-cento courts, and admiring the stately proportions of Wren's additions. But Hampton Court contains the very highest productions of art, such as the Cartoons, the tapestries of Mantegna, and many pictures of respectable rank. In addition to these there is so large a mass of historical portraits and pictures of national events, that, with proper arrangement, we have the means of holding the mirror of art up to our Court and national life from the age of Henry VII. to the present generation.

Unfortunately, ore and dross are all mingled together; and the eye and intelligence are bewildered by the quantities of good and bad pictures hung helter-skelter in all directions. The value of the historical pictures is greatly diminished by the want of a strict chronological arrangement, whilst those that have a pictorial value, altogether apart from the history of England, are mingled with a multitude of others that ought not to hang on the walls of a Royal palace, more particularly so stately a fabric as that of Wren. Without, every brick is solid, substantial, and fitting; within, the eye, in every chamber, is offended with something spurious and unsuitable. A reclassification ought, therefore, to comprise—1st, those that have an English and historical value; 2nd, those that have an abstract pictorial value; 3rd, those that are spurious or of inferior quality, which ought to be removed.

With regard to those pictures which have a merely pictorial value, apart from our interest in English history, it is quite clear that their proper place is the National Gallery, when more room shall have been provided. The National Collection is a choice one; but, as a pictorial encyclopædia, it is certainly unworthy of the greatest and most picture-buying nation in the world. The surplus pictures from Hampton Court would not make it complete in this respect, but it would help to fill up some of the gaps; and many secondary pictures now unheeded at Hampton Court, from their isolation amid the general confusion there, would acquire an enhanced value in their proper place and school, in an improved and chronological arrangement of the pictures in the National Gallery.

While making these suggestions we assume, as a matter of course, that the Queen's personal pleasure would be taken in all such matters, not only involving her personal rights and sphere of supervision, but in which, as is well known, she is, without exception, the most competent judge of any of the Sovereigns of the last two centuries; while Prince Albert is well known to be thoroughly versed in all matters of æsthetics and practical art. With the assumption, then, of nothing being done in this matter which would not be quite agreeable, personally, to the Queen, we should—in order to see the second part of our project carried out, viz., the transformation of Hampton Court into a great Historical Gallery, illustrative of our national life—greatly desire to see this change not confined to a mere rearrangement of the Hampton Court pictures, but to embrace those of Windsor also.

For instance, we find all the materials for an illustration of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth at Hampton Court; but the principal Vandykes, illustrative of Charles I., are at Windsor, forming a separate room characterised by a certain monotony, from the pictures being all by one hand. For the Lelys and Knellers of the Restoration and the Revolution, and the Wests of George III., we must again go back to Hampton Court. If we wish to pursue the series, for the Lawrences of the great period which closed with 1815 we must once more return to Windsor. Our conclusion, therefore, is, that if Hampton Court be first weeded of all the rubbish, and, secondly, have its choice pictures of an abstract pictorial value transferred to the National Collection, there are the means of rendering Hampton Court a gallery of historical illustration, such as no other country in Europe possesses; and for this the arrangement of the rooms, all *en suite*, is particularly suitable.

The Cartoons, which form the chief glory of Hampton Court, are certainly out of place there; for they have no relation to the historical character of the gallery, which is its chief peculiarity, and they are not sufficiently supported and surrounded by other eminent Italian works. Their proper place is the National Gallery of the future, which it would at once raise to the highest European rank, with the other charming Correggios, Guidos, and the masterpiece of Sebastian del Piombo, as supports and gradations. At present our National Collection forms a small and choice gallery. The addition of the Cartoons, and a certain number of other paintings of a general character, carefully selected from Hampton Court, would at once raise it to a rivalry with the Vatican, the Louvre, Dresden, and the Pitti Palace, leaving Madrid alone to tower over all the others. The linen tapestries of Andrea Mantegna are certainly in too delicate a state to be brought nearer to the smoke of London, and we are afraid are doomed to certain destruction, which is certainly a pity, considering their beauty, power, and spirit. It is already an effort of the optics to make them well

out; and, after the melancholy specimens of restoration which we have lately seen in Pall-Mall East, we should be afraid of their still more speedy extinction. With regard to the ownership of the Cartoons and other valuable productions of which we propose a transfer, if the nation has a delicacy about asking the Queen for their possession, the difficulty could be got over by presenting the Queen with the National Gallery, which would be henceforth the Queen's Gallery or Royal Gallery.

We have not space to enumerate in detail the pictures which might be utilised in the sense of both proposals: we content ourselves with a cursory glance at the catalogue.

No. 1 is set down to Giulio Romano, being a reproduction of Raphael's Victory of Constantine over Maxentius—a great subject greatly treated by the greatest of all masters. But this is certainly not a copy by Giulio Romano. A good print of the subject would be infinitely more agreeable, and at the first item we see the truth of the statement that Hampton Court contains the refuse of other galleries.

The Venetian school is perhaps best represented at Hampton Court. In No. 321 we have an interesting specimen of Gian Bellino, who was to Venetian art what Pietro Perugino was to Roman, and whom we may pronounce to be the greatest of the pre-Titianites. We have in 70 and 152 interesting specimens of Pordenone, one of the greatest of the earlier Venetian artists, just after the full emancipation of Italian art from Byzantine hardness: the latter a portrait of himself and family, and, thus doubly interesting from its subjective character, would be a decided addition to our national collection, already rich in other Venetians. No. 68, a sculpture by Bassano, belongs to the same class.

Giorgione is no doubt well represented in the National Gallery, for we cannot avoid agreeing with Dr. Waagen in thinking the fine "Venetian Musical Party," with its tone of Rosso-ardito, to be a most unmistakable Giorgione, unless Titian performed a *tour de force* in imitating an artist who, however sympathetic, was not his equal. The "Warrior in Armour," by Giorgione, at Hampton Court, from the collection of Charles I., is certainly a fine picture, but in very bad condition, and would need restoration. There is also a woman's head, with a green garment, from the collection of Charles I., ascribed to Sebastian del Piombo, which has extraordinary merit, and, by whomsoever painted, is an admirable picture. On the other hand, the Paul Veronese (No. 72) is manifestly spurious, and ought to be consigned without delay to the lumber-room.

Hampton Court abounds in Riccis (Nos. 107—111), works of the false Paul Veronese, and specimens of what mere mimicry of a great manner can reduce a school to. The Riccis were the decline and death of Venetian art. These pictures are as a corpse to a living body; the features are unmistakable, but the vital powers are extinct. We should, nevertheless, like to see a couple of specimens in the National Gallery as foils to their predecessors, completing the illustration of the rise, fulness, and decline of the great Venetian school.

There are some fair specimens of the Italian sei-cento, worthy of a place in our Italian collection for themselves; for instance, No. 51, "Augustus and the Sibyl," by Pietro da Cortona, a pleasing artist of the decorative school, although certainly not meriting the pompous and punning title conferred upon him by his flatterers, "Corona dei Pittori." As a clear and very pretty specimen of the silver tone of the seventeenth century, which the Le Sueurs, the Champagnes, and the Knellers so gloated on, we may mention No. 165, "Joseph and Potiphar's Wife," by Orazio Gentileschi, which, like many works of the Realisti, is not in the conventional costume of Biblical history, but modern Italian. The "Luca Giordanos," in this tone (467—478), appear to us of so slight value as to be scarcely worth room, except as illustrations of this secondary name.

In the Northern schools we have several specimens of Durer and Holbein. Of the latter the interesting portraits of his father and mother, which have no immediate connection with the English historical series, would fill up a vacuum in our very scant representation of the German schools. We may say the same of No. 368, a Sorceress, by Adam Elzheimer, who is the link between the Durers and Holbeins of the early part of the sixteenth century, and the Sandrarts and Netchers of the latter part of the seventeenth century. We cannot say that the "Sorceress" enchants us; but we remark that there is in the National Gallery no specimen of the artist who, during the Thirty Years' War, with all its disasters, sought, as Joachim says, "to seize the fugitive muse of painting by the skirt."

Of the Dutch and Flemish there are many curious specimens; but we may begin with pronouncing No. 134, a Madonna and Child, by Mabuse, to be unmistakably spurious, and giving no idea of this truly great master, who, in the felicitous expression of ingenious devotion, yields only to Quintin Matsys among the elder Belgians. Of Gerard Honthorst, who, next to Rubens and Vandyke, was the favourite painter of the Court of Charles I., there are several specimens which might be transferred to the National Collection; for instance, No. 252, "Singing by Candle-light," in Gerard's most celebrated and successful manner, but in miserably bad condition, and needing a restoration by a skilful hand. Several pictures of this class by other artists are exceedingly curious: such as No. 56, "The Family of Solomon de Bray, represented as Marc Antony and Cleopatra." There is no specimen in the National Gallery of this master, who was the fellow-countryman and contemporary of the principal Dutch artists of the seventeenth century.

One of the best of the Dutch school at Hampton Court, and worthy of a most prominent place in the English or any great gallery of European art, is No. 102; a portrait ascribed to Vander Helst; but on this point we do not pretend to speak confidently. Of one thing we are certain, that it is one of the most beautiful portraits in England, of a fine golden tone, and combining elaborate finish with tranquillity of effect.

Of portraits of other schools there are several, which might either be classed in the historical series, or belong to the National Art Collection, such as the portrait of Philip IV., by Velasquez; that of Louis XIV. by Mignard; and the still finer and more remarkable portrait of Louis XVI., by Greuze:

treble valuable from the melancholy interest of the subject; from the renown of the painter, who, living in an age of mannerism, painted after nature; and from the great scarcity—we might almost say dearth—in England of fair specimens of the French school; which, to much intrinsic excellence, has the charm of a wonderful variety, arising from the frequent revolutions of taste, which have been as complete and surprising as those which have affected the political institutions of France. To the stately ecclesiastical style of the seventeenth century succeeded the boudoir prettinesses of the frivolous and voluptuous age of Louis Quinze. This was proscribed by the classico-republicanism of David, which, in its turn, yielded to the military anecdotal style of the Empire. This latter was, in turn, put out of vogue by the Romantic school that sprang from the poetry of Byron, and the prose of Scott and Chateaubriand, and of which the most faultless exponent has been Paul de la Roche. The Classical school has again gained ground with the sensuous harmony of Couture and Gleyre, and the austere majesty and grace of the later conceptions of Ingres. After all these revulsions, we may well say "What next?"

So much for those pictures which, having no immediate and direct connection with English history, but possessing a pictorial value, ought to eke out our general Royal or National Collection, as may be arranged with her Majesty. Many others we might have named if our article were not already too long. In our next we will take a glance at our art treasures in Hampton Court strictly related to British history, and having an illustrative value, without reference to their intrinsic artistic merits.

FINE ARTS.

MODERN PAINTERS. Volume III. By JOHN RUSKIN, M.A.
Smith, Elder, and Co.

The certain amount of success or tinsel éclat which has hitherto attended this voluble writer has always been to us a matter of mystery, involving something of inconsistency. The sale which his volumes, published at a high price, have commanded, proves that there is a large portion of the public who are desirous of cultivating a knowledge of the arts; whilst the readiness with which his extravagant dogmas have been received as canons, and his pedantic conceits accepted as eloquence, proved how very little knowledge of the subject there was amongst his readers. Mr. Ruskin has written with the boldness of one who knew none of the difficulties and dangers of the ground upon which he trod; with fluency, because he was wholly uninfluenced by the opinions—he would call them prejudices—of those who had hitherto been acknowledged as useful labourers in the same field.

In other words, Mr. Ruskin, when he began to discuss the merits of "modern painters," and to compare them with the old masters, ten years ago, had no notions of art, except what might be supposed to come from inherent impulse, and he succeeded in entertaining a very large circle of art-aspirants, who knew no more about the matter than himself. Is it a wonder that, whilst professor and pupil were in the same blissful state of ignorance, they got on very well together? It had been well if Mr. Ruskin had ended as wise as he began, for *certainly*, "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing."

Our author, in his preface—which he tells us, being all about himself, "no one need be at the trouble of reading," unless he likes—is very candid upon this point. Accounting for the ten years' delay which has taken place in the production of the present volume, he says:—

The first and second volumes were written to check, as far as I could, the attacks upon Turner, which prevented the public from honouring his genius, at the time when his power was greatest. The check was partially given, but too late; Turner was seized by painful illness not long after the second volume appeared; his works, towards the close of the year 1845, showed a conclusive failure of power; and I saw that nothing remained for me to write, but his epitaph.

The modesty of this needs no comment. Fortunate Turner, in the decline of your splendid career, to have a Ruskin for a champion! Then, after a sneer at the hollow farce of a public funeral at St. Paul's, our author goes on:—

But, with respect to the illustration and preservation of those of his works which remained unburied, I felt that much might yet be done, if I could at all succeed in proving that these works had some nobleness in them, and were worth preservation. I pursued my task, therefore, as I had at first proposed, with this only difference in method—that, instead of writing in continued haste, such as I had been forced into at first by the urgency of the occasion, I set myself to do the work as well as I could, and to collect materials for the complete examination of the canons of art received among us.

I have now given ten years of my life to the single purpose of enabling myself to judge rightly of art, and spent them in labour as earnest and continuous as men usually undertake to gain position, or accumulate fortune. It is true, that the public still call me an "amateur;" nor have I ever been able to persuade them that it was possible to work steadily and hard with any other motive than that of gaining bread, or to give up a fixed number of hours every day to the furtherance of an object unconnected with personal interests. I have, however, given up so much of life to this object; earnestly desiring to ascertain, and be able to teach, the truth respecting art; and also knowing that this truth was, by time and labour, definitely ascertainable.

Mr. Ruskin's error appears to be in supposing that to imbibe a thorough appreciation of art only requires the inclination and time to bestow upon the pursuit; that natural bent and intellectual capacity for the purpose are not essential. And yet in another part of his book, in a fit of very sublime fervour, he says:—"Greatness in art is not a teachable or gainable thing, but the expression of the mind of a God-made man."

Then, to return to his preface, he goes on to say:—"There are laws of truth and right in painting, just as fixed as those of harmony in music, or of affinity in chemistry. Those laws are perfectly ascertainable by labour and ascertainable no otherwise." Yet, on the other hand, later in his work, talking of the "God-made supremacy" of "great men," he says:—

The great men never know how or why they do things. They have no rules—cannot comprehend the nature of rules:—do not, usually, even know, in what they do, what is best or what is worst; to them it is all the same; something they cannot help saying or doing—one piece of it as good as another, and none of it (it seems to them) worth much. The moment a man begins to talk about rules, in whatever art, you may know him for a second-rate man; and if he talks about them much, he is a third-rate, or no artist at all. To this rule is no exception in any art.

There is an inconsistency here which we will not attempt to reconcile. We return to our preface again, where Mr. Ruskin informs us that he by ten years' "labour" thoroughly mastered all the rules and laws of art, inasmuch that:—

Although it is not possible but that in the discussion of so many subjects as are necessarily introduced in the following pages, here and there a chance should arise of minor mistakes or misconception, the reader need not be disturbed by the detection of any such. He will find always that they do not affect the matter mainly in hand.

And again:—

And of one thing he may be certified, that any error I fall into will not be in an illogical deduction: I may mistake the meaning of a symbol, or the angle of a rock-cleavage, but not draw an inconsequent conclusion. I state this, because it has often been said that I am not logical, by persons who do not so much as know what logic means. Next to imagination, the power of perceiving logical relation is one of the rarest among men: certainly, of those with whom I have conversed, I have found always ten who had deep feeling, quick wit, or extended knowledge, for one who could set down a syllogism without a flaw; and for ten who could set down a syllogism, only one who could entirely understand that a square has four sides.

When a man asserts his pretensions after this fashion it is an ungracious task to argue with him. We, in the notice which follows, shall not attempt to do so: we have given Mr. Ruskin's own account of his gifts and accomplishments; and now, in referring to some of his statements about art, shall be content, in great measure, to let them speak for themselves.

After Mr. Ruskin's ten years' study of art one might have expected to have from him some reference to the writers who have hitherto been acknowledged as authorities on the subject, and some observations upon the points wherein he differs from, or agrees with, them. But not so; on the contrary, he writes as if the subject were an entirely new one, upon which nothing worthy of a moment's attention had ever yet been written. In his first chapter, on "the received opinions touching the grand style," he talks of his inquiry as of a "journey in a guideless country;" the only authorities he cites on the subject being three papers by Reynolds, printed in the *Idler*, in 1757, and which he quotes at great length, only for the purpose of showing how "our author" had "entangled himself in some grave fallacy," and how, in consequence, he wrote egregious nonsense. In the chapter on "Parism" we are told how "poor *fumigatory* Fuseli, with an art composed of the tinsel of the stage, and the panics of the nursery, speaks contemptuously of the name of Angelico as 'dearer to sanctity than to art.'" And in these two notices, with the addition of a passing sneer at "the affectations of Walpole," and "the simplicities of Vasari," we have almost the sum of what reference Mr. Ruskin condescends to make to the art-literature of Europe.

Of the general ignorance which has prevailed, and still prevails, amongst writers on art, he speaks very freely; as, for instance:—"I cannot remember any writer, not professedly artistic, who has not, more or less, in one part of his book or another, countenanced the idea that the great end of art is to produce a deceptive resemblance of reality." Whereas, we cannot remember any writer of any pretensions or repute in the matter who has held so ridiculous and derogatory a notion. And then he deals a slap at the critics, deprecating "the ignorance of persons whose position in life compels them to speak of art without having any real enjoyment of it." Yes!—true knowledge and enjoyment of art are combined for the first time in the "Graduate of Oxford"; and not a little startling are the *dicta* which he propounds. Time was that Raphael was considered a great painter, and, of all the painter's attributes, to be master most in point of expression. Mr. Ruskin triumphantly explodes this fallacy. The celebrated cartoons did not represent "either historical or possible fact":—

They were, in the strictest sense of the word, "compositions"—cold arrangements of propriety and agreeableness according to academical formulas; the painter never in any case making the slightest effort to conceive the thing as it really must have happened, but only to gather together graceful lines and beautiful faces, in such compliance with commonplace ideas of the subject as might obtain for the whole an "epic unity," or some such other form of scholastic perfectness.

The cartoon of the "Charge to Peter," for instance, is denounced as "an infinite monstrosity and hypocrisy;" "all a mere mythic absurdity, and faded concoction of fringes, muscular arms, and curly heads of Greek philosophers;" full of "vapid fineries." As for the far-famed "Transfiguration," it is a mere farrago of "kicking gracefulneses."

On the other hand, "the chief masterpieces of expression which the world possesses are small pictures by Angelico, in which the figures are rarely more than six or seven inches high;" and Hunt's "Light of the World"—a cold, fantastic, melancholy production, which some of our readers may recollect seeing in the Royal Academy Exhibition some three seasons back, representing a single figure of Christ knocking at a door—is pronounced by our infallible author to be "the most perfect instance of *expressional purpose with technical power which the world has yet produced*."—In short the finest picture that ever was painted.

We almost feel that apology is due to our readers for reproducing such stuff as this; but the comfort is that it carries its own antidote with it. We are sure also that, after the above specimens, we shall not be expected to follow very closely this author in his rambling rodomontade theories; in which there is much more about theology, metaphysics, poetry, geology, botany, political economy, and every other possible subject, than about painting. It may be satisfactory to the pre-Raphaelites to know that they have still a champion in this flashy author who predicts the first perfection of great art to come at their hands. "Religious art, at once complete and sincere, never yet has existed," we are told; but

It will exist; nay, I believe, the era of its birth has come, and that those bright Turnerian images which the European public declared to be "dotage," and those calm pre-Raphaelite studies which, in like manner, it pronounced "puerility," form the first foundation that has ever been laid for true sacred art.

How we are to reconcile Turner's wild "God-made supremacy" with the minute pattern-cut detail of the pre-Raphaelites, we will not stop to inquire. We must hurry on quickly to the end, glancing only at one or two prominent passages, if we would not become as mad as our author. In a chapter on the grotesque ideal we are treated to an elaborate comparison between a "true" griffin of Mediaeval art and a "false" griffin, of Classic art, ending thus conclusively:—"So that, taking the truth first, the honest imagination gains everything: it has its griffinism, and grace, and usefulness, all at once. But the false composer, caring for nothing but himself and his rules, loses everything—griffinism, grace, and all."

A chapter "of the use of Pictures" the author opens with a quaint reverie on the biped character of "useful truths":—

I am afraid this will be a difficult chapter: one of drawbacks, qualifications, and exceptions. But the more I see of useful truths, the more I find that, like human beings, they are eminently biped; and, although, as far as apprehended by human intelligence, they are usually seen in a crane-like posture, standing on one leg, whenever they are to be stated so as to maintain themselves against all attack it is quite necessary they should stand on two, and have their complete balance on opposite fulcra.

In what follows we are told that "poets and men of strong feeling are apt to be among the very worst judges of paintings." A comparison is instituted between the beauty of a real landscape seen from a window and a picture of the same; and, after enumerating five of Turner's landscapes, the author writes:—

None of these things are bad pieces of art; and yet,—if it were offered to me to have, instead of them, so many windows, out of which I should see, first the real chain of the Alps from the Superga; then the real block of gneiss, and Aiguilles-Rouges; then the real towers of Fribourg, and pine forest; the real Isola Bella; and, finally, the true Mary and Elizabeth; and beneath them, the actual old monk at work in his cell,—I would very unhesitatingly change my five pictures for the five windows; and so, I apprehend, would most people, not, it seems to me, unwisely.

A position which, we submit, would alone be sufficient as evidence that Mr. Ruskin, with all his ten years' "labour," actually knows nothing about the genius and province of art.

Mr. Ruskin indulges some peculiar notions on the subject of colour: he talks of the "sacred element of colour;" and considers that bright colours are inseparable from true religious fervour, and that dark and mixed colours are a conclusive proof of "want of faith" and "darkness of heart."

For instance (he says), our reprobation of bright colour is, I think, for the most part, mere affectation, and must soon be done away with. *Vulgarity, dullness, or impiety, will, indeed, always express themselves through art in brown and grey*, as in Rembrandt, Caravaggio, and Salvator; but we are not wholly vulgar, dull, or impious; nor, as moderns, are we necessarily obliged to continue so in any wise. *Our greatest men, whether sad or gay, still delight, like the great men of all ages, in brilliant hues.*

Here we will stop. We have cited enough from this very original and modest writer to establish the measure of his pretensions to the satisfaction of all who know or care anything about the matter. If his writings on art were at first a mystery to us, they now turn out to be "a mistake."

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